THE

Counterfeit Lady UNVEILED.

Being a full Account of the Birth, Life, moſt remarkable Actions, and untimely Death of

MARY CARLETON,

Known by the Name of

THE

German Princeſs.

LONDON,
Printed for *Peter Parker*, at the *Leg* and *Star*, over againſt the *Royal Exchange* in *Cornhill*, 1673.

TO THE READER.

Before you proceed in reading this Book, I would have you begin here, and then you are likely to know what you ſhall find in it; I intend for you a particular account of the Birth, Life, moſt remarkable actions, and death, of a famous woman called Mary Carleton, *but better known by the name of the* German Princeſs. *You have had ſome account of her by Books already printed, but I think as this is the laſt, ſo it is the beſt. I am ſure here is moſt in this, and moſt pains hath been taken about this,*

To the Reader.

I have gathered my intelligence from ſeveral that knew her, and from all that hath been written of her; and in having this Book you will have all that is, or I think can, or will be ſaid of her; had ſhe given any account her ſelf of her actions ſhe could beſt have done it, but as ſhe acted them with all privacy, ſo ſhe deſired to conceal them, and ſhe would never anſwer any particular queſtion, nor would ſhe own any particular action; if any told her they had heard ſhe had twenty husbands and deſired to know the truth, ſhe would anſwer that ſhe had been told ſhe had fifty, but would not anſwer punctually to any queſtion. You will find her temper by reading the paſſages of her life, which I in this manner deſcribe to you. I firſt give you the beſt and trueſt account of her Birth, the place where, and time when, and who were her Parents I acquaint you with the manner of her education and firſt marriage with one Stedman; *her ſuppoſed ſecond marriage with one* Day: *then*

then ſome of her rambies, and her travelling to her pretended Countrey Collen; *where by a miſtake ſhe gets the name and title of Lady* Maria Wolway, *and how by the continuation of that miſtake ſhe gets a quantity of Jewels, and cheating her Landlady who had been her aſſiſtant, ſhe leaves that place, and comes for* England. *Upon her arrival here, ſhe chances into the houſe of Mr.* King, *her Husband* Carletons *Brother in law, who ſuppoſing her to be a* Princeſs *at beſt, and a Lady at leaſt, contrives how to get her married to his wifes Brother* John Carleton. *I give you a full account of all Paſſages in the wooing, Wedding, and pretended diſcovering of this Lady. Her Indictment for having two Husbands, and her being acquitted, and the circumſtances how. You then have an account of her Acting at the Theatre, and her leaving that employ at the entreaty of two young* Novices *who ſhe cheats and abuſes. Next how a Countrey Gentleman entertains*

tains her as his wife, or Miſtreſs rather, till ſhe finding her opportunity cheats him of money and jewels and leaves him. She then cheats a young man of a round Summe of money by a counterfeit Letter, which induces him to entertain her in his Lodgings, where ſhe robs him and leaves him. After that ſhe pretends to bury a Friend, and getting a Pall of Velvet and ſeveral pieces of Plate for the Solemnity, ſhe runs away with all, leaving a Coffin with Hay and Brickbats. She then cheats a Mercer, and after him a Weaver and Lacéman of ſeveral rich Commodities; and cauſing a Taylor to make her Cloaths, ſhe not only gets off without payment for them, but alſo robs him of Plate &c. She likewiſe gets gloves, Ribbons, Hoods, Scarfs, &c. from an Exchange-Shop without payment. She draws in and trappans a young Lawyer out of a hundred pound. She often changes her Lodging and ſteals ſilver Tankards, and as often

often viſits Ale houſes and gets ſilver Bowls and other drinking Cups; for ſome of theſe Facts ſhe is caught, Indicted, found guilty, and ſent to Jamaica. *I then relate to you the manner of her Voyage thither, entertainment there, and her return to* London; *where ſhe preſently falls to her old Trade of Pilfering and Cheating of ſeveral, till ſhe meets with an* Apothecary, *to whom ſhe pretending to be a Rich Citizens Neece, thereby Cheats him of a hundred pound. Laſtly her Cheating a Watch-Maker of a round ſum of money and ſeveral Watches. After all this, ſhe is taken in* Southwark; *I give you a clear account of the manner how, and how ſhe behaved her ſelf in the Priſon of the* Marſhalſea, *and afterwards in* Newgate. *The manner of her Tryal and Condemnation at the Seſſions in the* Old Baily; *and her deportment in priſon from the time of her Condemnation till her Execution; her penitence before, and at*

her Execution, and laſtly, her laſt Speech, death and Burial. This is the Sum of what you ſhall read in this enſuing Treatiſe; before which I have placed her true original Picture as it was taken by her own order and appointment in the year 1663. *when ſhe was tryed about her marriage with her Husband* Carleton, *and being acquitted, ſhe was ſo Confident as to write, print, and publiſh a Book, calling it the Caſe of* Mary Carleton, *and under her Picture ſhe cauſed theſe Lines to be placed.*

Behold my Innocence after this diſgrace,
Dares ſhew an honeſt and a noble face;
Henceforth there needs no mark of me be known,
For the true Counterfeit is hereby ſhewn.

And underneath was added theſe words.

Ætatis

Ætatis meæ proximo 22. *Januar. Stilo novo viceſſimo primo* 1663. M. C.

So that ſhe began with a lye, for her Age was as I have ſaid, ſeven or eight years more, only the day was true as ſhe alledged to the laſt; If you behold her Picture, and did know her, or ever ſee her, you will conclude it very like; only ſhe was ſomewhat thinner faced, nine years time had made that alteration; and you will find that the dreſſing of her Head is different from the preſent faſhion, and from what ſhe now wore, which was a-la-mode; *a large parcel of frizled hair, which is called a Towr, and her habit now at her Tryal was an* Indian *ſtrip'd Gown, ſilk Petticoat, white ſhooes with ſlaps, laced with green, and in theſe ſhe was hanged, and I think buried. This was her outſide, what her inſide was, by reading this Book you will be ſufficiently acquainted, for I have related at large all theſe ſeveral paſſages which you have here read in* Epitomy.

my. *And she may very well serve as a Looking-glass, wherein we may see the Vices of this Age Epitomized. And to the end that we may see her vices and thereby amend our own wicked lives, is the intent of*

Your Friend,
F. K.

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GERMAN PRINCESSE.

LEt Nature be never ſo Liberal to us in the Compleat forming of our Bodies after the moſt exact Copies of Proportion, and let us be never ſo well accompliſhed in all our outward qualities, ſo that we may imagine our ſelves to be compleat, yet if Grace be not implanted in our hearts, whereby to guide us in our Actions, we are like a fair Veſſel at Sea which is ſufficiently

furniſhed with all her Sayls and Tackling, but yet wants the only thing to Guide and Steer her by, her Rudder: without which it is very difficult to Guide her to any ſafe Harbour. The truth hereof we may every day experiment in our ſelves, and we need look no further, then into our own actions, when we are only led by our natural inclinations, but in regard we either cannot, or will not ſo ſoon ſee miſtakes and crimes in our ſelves as in others; therefore we have plentiful Examples, and of all that this Age have produced, none does ſo clearly demonſtrate the Truth of our Frailneſs and Imbecility, when governed by our own wild deſires, then this enſuing Narrative.

The intent of my diſcourſe is to give you an account of the moſt conſiderable Actions of a Woman whoſe Infamous carriage hath made her Famous through the

the whole Kingdom, but more eſpecially in and about this City of *London*, where for the moſt part ſhe hath played her pranks, and which hath been the Scene of her moſt conſiderable Actions, and where at laſt ſhe made her untimely Exit. If I ſhould promiſe to give you a true account of her whole life I ſhould deceive you, for how can Truth be diſcovered of her who was wholly compoſed of Falſehood? but that I might not erre from the Truth in what I ſhall relate to you, I have took ſome pains to gain intelligence; ſome I had from her ſelf, ſome from thoſe who were conſiderably concerned with her, and ſome from Mr. *John Carleton* her unfortunate Husband, and what I could not gather from theſe informations, I have ſupplyed by Books, which have bin formerly written of her, both in her defence and againſt her; and I have carried ſo even a hand in my

belief of what I read, that I hope I ſhall do her no wrong in miſrepreſenting any thing of her.

That I may orderly begin my Diſcourſe, it will be convenient in the firſt place to let you know the time and place of her Birth, and from what Parentage ſhe was deſcended, but here now I am but juſt begun, if I ſhould credit what Fame relates of her, and how various people are in their reports of her in theſe particulars, I ſhould be at a ſtand, but although I ſhall contradict the opinion of many, and what ſhe always declared of her ſelf, yet I tell you that according to my beſt intelligence, which I think is ſufficiently Authentick, ſhe was no *German*, but an abſolute (I will not ſay true) Engliſhwoman, and although *London* hath been diſhonoured, or ſhe hath rather diſhonoured *London* with her lewd practices, yet the City of *Canterbury* in the County of *Kent* was the

the place of her Birth, her Parents were of honeſt and good report, her father being a Muſitian, and belonging as a Choiriſter to that Cathedral, his name was *Moders*, he died long ſince, and her Mother married with an honeſt Inn-keeper of the ſame place where ſhe now lives, or lately did ſo. I know in this my relation I differ from her own, who denyed that ſhe was of this County or of ſo mean Parentage; for if you will believe her ſhe thus reported that ſhe was born in *Collen* in *Germany*, and that ſhe had lived there or thereabouts the moſt part of her life, and that her Father named *Henry Van Wolway*, was a Lycentiat and Doctor of the Civil Law, and Lord of *Holmſteim*, that he was eſteemed for his Services done to that City in mediating their Peace and Security, and Neutrality in the Sweediſh and German War, and for other effects of his Counſels

and Endeavours to the Eccleſiaſtical Prince Elector and the Houſe of *Lorraine* in all thoſe turmoyles of that Country in the firſt Rupture of the *Spaniſh* and *French* War. This is the Character ſhe gives of her Father, but I am ſufficiently aſſured of the contrary, and that this was but a Romance, and that ſhe had told this lye ſo often, that ſhe at laſt believed it her ſelf to be true. I have known many more of her temper in this particular, eſpecially when they relate any thing that is honourable or glorious of themſelves, we have had in *England* pretended Princes in the time of King *Henry* the VII. A *Perkin Warbeck*, one who was of an Outlandiſh and mean Extraction, yet he gave out himſelf to be Heir of the Crown of *England*, as Son to *Edward* the fourth, and he did ſo well perſonate the Prince himſelf, and was ſo well backt on by others, that he without any

difficulty

difficulty perſwaded ſeveral Kings and Princes of the truth of his aſſertion, and was had in ſo particular an eſteem of the King of *Scotland*, that he not only treated him as the Prince he repreſented, but he alſo gave him a fair and virtuous Lady to Wife, who was very near a kin to himſelf; and this Counterfeit ſo well behav'd himſelf in every thing, that he won the affections of many Engliſhmen to be of his ſide, and although he and his whole party were routed, and himſelf taken Priſoner, yet he could not be perſwaded in the leaſt to acknowledge himſelf to be other then the true Prince, and in that opinion or reſolution he died, being executed for that Treaſonable practice. Such was the humor of that man, and his example hath our *German* Lady imitated; for as a *German* ſhe would be eſteemed, a Lady ſhe gave her ſelf out to be, and the

vulgar who are inclined to multiply and magnifie every novelty, gave her out to be a Princeſs, and for ſuch a one did ſhe paſs in the common report of all: but I ſuppoſe that humour is over, and that now they doe or will believe what I write, that ſhe was Daughter to a Muſitian at *Canterbury*. And it is to be doubted that ſhe who denied her earthly Parents, and particularly her father in her words, and in her actions denied or practiced againſt the Laws of God her Heavenly Father, if he was not the more merciful to her, might have diſowned her and denyed her a place in his Heavenly Kingdome.

Having now given you the beſt and trueſt account of her birth and extraction, the place where, and the perſons who, I ſhould proceed to tell you the time when; but in that I can give you leſs certainty then the other;

for

for I altogether believe her own report to be falſe, but as ſhe related I muſt give it you, not knowing how to diſprove her; ſhe was as ſhe ſaid born on the 22 of *January* 1642. although I do not believe this to be true, yet I find it to be very ominous, for according to this account ſhe was executed on her Birth day, and lived in all juſt 30 years, now that ſhe was much elder by at leaſt 7 or 8 years is not only my opinion, but alſo that of her huſband and ſeveral of her intimate acquaintance.

And now I have told you all I know of her birth and age, I can ſay little of her education, only thoſe that knew her when young, relate that ſhe was very much addicted to her pleaſure, loved fine Clothes and gallantry, and endeavoured to exceed her betters in the bravery of her habit, that ſhe took much pleaſure in reading, eſpecially Love Books,

and thoſe that treated of Knight Errantry, ſhe was well read in *Periſmos and Periſmenos*, *Don Bellianis* of *Greece*, and all thoſe other books that related to love and Arms; ſhe proceeded to *Amadis de Gaul*, and reading of his fair Lady the Princeſs *Otiana*, ſhe oftentimes fancied her ſelf to be ſome ſuch Princeſs, or at leaſtwiſe a Lady of Honour that did belong to her; after this ſhe read *Caſſandra*, *Cleopatra*, and the reſt of thoſe Romances, and could and often did give a very perfect account of their adventures; and from her frequent and often reading, ſhe believing all ſhe read to be true, was much in love with the actions of thoſe great and renowned Heroes, and ſuppoſed her ſelf to be no leſs then a *Heroina*, or that in time ſhe ſhould be dignified with ſome Illuſtrious Title. But all theſe high imaginations and fancies of her ſelf proved to be only ſo, and

no

no reality. The meanneſs of her quality did not ſuit with her ſpirit, and although ſhe intended for her ſelf no leſs a Fortune then a Knight, or ſome great man to be her Husband, yet ſhe failed in her expectation, and was glad to accept of a Shoomaker; I ſuppoſe ſhe might have read the Story of the Gentle Craft, and was ſatisfied with that aſſertion ſo often uſed here, that a Shoomakers Son is a Prince born, and that although ſhe her ſelf were not a Princeſs or Lady, yet that ſhe might be the Mother of Princes; what ever ſhe conceited I know not, but Married ſhe was to one *Stedman*, a Gentleman of the Gentle Craft, and that about 18 years ago, that ſhe lived four years with him, and had two Children by him which ſoon died, and her Husbands quality being mean, and he not being able to maintain her at that heighth which ſhe always aimed at, ſhe

was diſcontented and was reſolved to ſeek her Fortune, and falling acquainted with the Maſters Mate of a Ship that was bound for *Barbadoes*, ſhe purpoſed to run away from her Husband, and go with him ; but although ſhe went on Board the Ship, yet her Husband underſtanding her intent, and finding that the beſt of his Moveables were gone, he to recover them ſtopt her, and by a Warrant took her out of the Ship, and carried her to *Dover Caſtle*.

This breach between her and her Husband was not ſo well made up, but that it was ſoon after broken, for ſhe ſtill continuing her reſolve of trying her fortune, ſlipt away from him, and ſhipt her ſelf for another voyage, but whether it was to *Barbadoes*, or what other place I cannot learn, neither is it much material to the Story. In this Voyage ſhe ſpent al out two years, and then

then it was that ſhe firſt put in practice ſome of her good qualities. At her return, although *Canterbury* was not far off, and her Husband *Stedman* lived there, yet ſhe was married to one *Day* a Chyrurgion of *Dover*; what means ſhe uſed to manage this affair I know not, only that ſhe was indicted for having two Husbands, but ſo carried the matter, that ſhe was acquitted and this emboldned her to proceed and undertake a third marriage, which was to the aforeſaid *John Carleton*, and which was the firſt occaſion of her being publickly taken notice of in *London*, where ſhe hath ſince acted ſo many ſeveral Projects, to the recitall of which, I would haſten becauſe it is the moſt material and moſt expected and deſired of all the world, to whom I hope I ſhall give a ſufficient ſatisfaction in this my undertaking. But before I come to thoſe particulars

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in order to my orderly management of my Story, I muſt not only acquaint you with the management of her marriage with the ſaid *Carleton*, but with ſome particular paſſages of her Life, which preceeded it, and which are as yet unknown to moſt people.

She having been Indicted for having two Husbands, *Stedman* and *Day*, and being acquitted, ſhe thought it not convenient to ſtay longer in that County of *Kent*, or indeed in the Kingdom of *England*, and therefore once again Shipped her ſelf for Forreign parts, whether it was *France* or *Holland* where ſhe firſt landed, I know not, but ſhe ſaw both before ſhe returned, and from thoſe parts ſhe travelled to the ſo much by her talked of City of *Collen*, and in this voyage and journey ſhe attained to ſome perfection in the languages of thoſe ſeveral Countryes, a ſmattering know-

knowledge ſhe had before, for ſhe was always wel pleaſed to converſe with ſtrangers, and to read books of thoſe Languages, and by theſe means ſhe gained the knowledge of thoſe Languages which ſhe ſo much boaſted of, but I have heard her Husband *Carleton* and ſeveral others ſay that ſhe was not ſo well skilled in any language except Engliſh, no not in her own pretended Native Language, *High Dutch*, as to hold any conſiderable diſcourſe, but would always wave and decline it, and as for *Latin* or *Greek*, ſhe knew no more of it then *Jack Adams* the Town Fool. But were ſhe minded, ſhe could diſcourſe very well in *Engliſh*, her Tongue was well hung, and ſhe knew it, and loved to hear her ſelf talk. But to proceed, ſhe after ſome rambles about the Countryes, fixt at *Collen*, when ſhe arrived there, ſhe being Miſtreſs of a conſiderable ſum of mony, took up her lodging

lodging at a houſe of entertainment there, and lived in the greateſt Splendor ſhe had ever done, and as it is uſual in *England* for Ladies and Perſons of Quality to go in the Summer time to *Epſom* or *Tunbridge* Wells, ſo it is as cuſtomary to go to the *Spaw*, a place well known in thoſe parts; her deſigns without all queſtion were to advantage her ſelf, and ſhe intended to uſe her beſt Artifices upon that occaſion. But Fortune was ſo favourable to put ſuch an Adventure upon her, as the like hath ſeldom been heard of, and thus it was. As ſhe was one evening walking in one of thoſe pleaſant walks that were adjoyning to thoſe Medicinal Waters, ſhe was met and accoſted by a Gentleman, whom ſhe thus deſcribed, he was an old Gentleman that had fair Demeaſns about *Leige* or *Luyet*, not many miles diſtant from *Colen*, a man of ſerious gravity and vene-

rable

rable aſpect for his Gray Hairs, but diſngured with ſome ſcars his youthful luxury had given him which were repaired and ſupplemented by Art, but ſo that he plainly ſpoke his infirmity through the ruined arches of his voyce. This man whom ſhe her ſelf hath thus deſcribed, accoſted her in the rude Military way, for he had been a *Soldado*, and had caught as he ſaid that rotten hoarſe old and ſnuffling in the Trenches of *Breda* in the Brigade of Count *Henry* of *Naſſaw* in *Spinolas* Army, and had afterwards ſerved Monſieur *Tilly* againſt the King of *Sweden*, whom he had ſeen fall at *Luthen*. This Gentleman meeting and accoſting her as if ſhe had been long known to him, raiſed ſome wonder, for ſhecould not believe her ſelf to be known at that place, but ſhe ſoon found he was miſtaken in her, for in his applications and diſcourſe he gave her the title of Madam

Madam *Maria*, and ſometimes of *Wolway*; ſhe could not tell what to imagine when he called her by the right name of *Maria*, but when he added the other of *Wolway* ſhe was ſenſible of his miſtake, but ſhe finding him civil enough in his deportments and actions, and withall that his pretenſes were amorous, ſhe permitted him to proceed in his diſcourſe, which he did in ſuch manner, that he would not be denyed his ſuit, ſince as he ſaid he had never known what a repulſe meant in his life. Our new made Madam not finding any prejudice likely to accrew, by her admitting him, gave him ſuch anſwers as were indifferent and only complemental, and deſired for that time to retire home to her lodging, he underſtanding hermind, readily attended her, and at their arrival there, after ſome few words of courſe they parted. She was glad ſhe was rid of him,

that

that ſhe might conſider of the adventure, but ſhe could not gather any profitable or advantagious meaning of her ſelf without the help of her Landlady, to whom ſhe having diſcovered what had happened, and ſhe having ſeen this Inamoretto told her his quality, for he was very well known there, and ſhe being now acquainted with this, deſired to know if ſhe might, the reaſon of his miſtake in her name, to this ſhe received a ſatisfactory anſwer, for her Landlady alſo told her that there was ſuch a Lady living at *Colen*, or elſe in the Nunnery of the Barefooted Clates, who was of that name of *Maria Van Wolway*, and whom ſhe had ſeen and who indeed did very much reſemble her.

This diſcourſe of the Landlady did not only ſatisfie but pleaſe our new Madam, and ſhe who was always ready witted on ſuch occaſion, did purpoſe to make

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ſome advantage of his adventure, and therefore preſently applyed her ſelf to her Lanlady, deſiring her advice in this miſtake; truly ſaid the Landlady I cannot think it will be any diſadvantage to you to continue the miſtake, for although the Gentleman is old yet he is of great Eſtate, and if he will deceive himſelf let him, you cannot but reap ſome advantage thereby, for he can do no leſs then make you ſome preſents which I adviſe you to accept of, and ſo you may continue your acquaintance with him ſo long as it ſhall ſtand with your benefits. Our Lady was not deaf to this diſcourſe, but liſtened very attentively, and reſolved to follow her Landladyes directions and not queſtioning but by her aſſiſtance to reap ſome profit, and hee Landtady was well enough pleaſed to engage in this affair for her own intereſt, becauſe ſhe expected ſome profit in the viſits

which

which ſhe expected he would make there. And as they projected it, ſo it fell out, for our *Soldado* the next day met his Miſtreſs, and waiting on her home, was there indifferently received by her, and that I may come to the main point of my Story, I in ſhort tell you that ſhe uſed ſuch Artifice in the manage of this Affair, being withal aſſiſted by her Landlady, that he preſented her ſeveral fair Jewels, ſome whereof were of real worth, and others that appeared to be ſo, but ſince proved to be otherwiſe, as her Husband *Carleton*, to whoſe hands they afterwards came, doth affirm.

This was the adventure of our *Soldado*, and our new dignified Lady, ſhe by theis means did get a Name which ſhe alwayes held, and which indeed was very fortunate to her, not only in her preſent Tranſactions with her Suiters, but afterwards in her Husband

band *Carleton*; but that I may quite finish this adventure, and come to that, I will proceed. She was doubtful that it would not alwayes be such fair weather, and therefore she was resolved to make Hey while the Sun did shine: She had many resplendent Jewels that gave a great lustre, but she was willing to have more and some Mony to boot; therefore her Suiter still continuing his Courtship, and that importunately, and pressing to Marriage, she knew then that all would come out, that she should be discovered, and that she having alwayes delayed it till her return to *Colen*, and her Lover intending to go thither with her, could no longer be deluded, and that then the true *Maria Van Wolway* would be known, wherefore she devised how to manage her affairs, and thus she accomplished them. She at length consented to go to *Colen*, but first her Lover was to go home

home and fetch ſuch habit and other neceſſaries as were convenient for his intended Match. His habitation was not far off, and he had made ſeveral trips thither, & never returned empty handed, but ſtill brought ſome Jewel or another, ſuch as his Anceſtors had left, or he had otherwiſe come to by the fortune of the Wars, and when ſhe had them together they were a very fair parcel; but now at his going home he promiſed to bring her more variety, but ſhe reſolved not to expect him in his return, but however, he having a Chain of Gold and a Medal, which was given him for ſome remarkable good ſervice in the War, and which he alwayes wore next his Shirt. She with ſmall entreaties prevailed with him to leave that alſo behind him, he knowing that if he had her, as he did not queſtion, that then he ſhould have all again, was very free with her, and ſo he parted.

She

She knowing that it was then full time to be gone, acquainted her Landlady with her deſign, who had had a pretty ſhare in the ſpoils of our Captain; but our Lady was reſolved ſhe ſhould not carry it off, ſhe would have all her ſelf, and admit of no ſharers, in order whereunto ſhe perſwaded the Landlady to get her a conveniency to be gone, not to the intended *Colen*, but to another place where ſhe ſhould not be ſuſpected, and therefore not followed by her Lover. The Landlady was willing to accommodate her, and therefore went out, leaving her at home, but ſhe did not intend to ſtay there, for this ingrateful Woman, ſo ſoon as her Landlady was gone out, did break open a Cheſt, wherein ſhe put all her Treaſure, and there ſhe found not only what had been given her by the Captain, but alſo a conſiderable Sum of Money; all which ſhe took, and packing it up with her

her own parcel away ſhe went, and having privately provided her ſelf of a paſſage to *Utrecht*, there ſhe made a ſtop for a while, thence paſſed to *Amſterdam*, where ſhe ſold the Gold Chain, and ſome other Jewels, from thence ſhe paſſed to *Roterdam*, and ſo coming to the *Brill*, took Shipping for *England*.

Theſe were the adventures of our Lady, and now being poſſeſſed of ſo much wealth, ſhe did believe her ſelf to be one, and ſhe having had ſuch good ſucceſs by this Name of *Maria van Wolway*; ſhe was reſolved to continue it, ſhe cared not for either her old Lover or her Landlady, nor how they would reſent her departure; ſhe believed ſhe had done well in chouſing the old Fool of his Jewels, and that ſhe had done very well in ſo cheating her Landlady, who had aſſiſted her. She had now been abſent ſome years, and was ſomewhat altered in her

Face and Garb, but much more in her Tongue, for ſhe now either ſpoke all *Dutch*, or elſe a mixture of that and *Engliſh*; however ſhe would no more go to *Dover* or *Canterbury* to look after her old Husbands, but to *London* ſhe would go to get a new one, and ſuch a one as ſhe hoped as ſhould exceed her late good fortune, and then it was that ſhe contrived all her ſtory of her Birth, Parents, Travels, Love, and other Adventures, which not only cheated her Husband *John Carleton* and his Friends, but alſo many other people in this City of *London*.

Being now Landed at *Billingſgate*, towards the end of *March Anno Dom.* 1663. it being early in the morning, and coming with other Company, among the reſt a Parſon was moſt officious in attending on her, they walked together without deſigning whither, but to the next convenient Houſe they ſhould find open, and the

the firſt that they came to, was the *Exchange* Tavern in the *Poultrey*, near the *Royal Exchange*. Thus have I given you the trueſt account that I can get of her life, from her birth to her arrival at this Tavern, where the greateſt and moſt politick of her actions were managed where ſhe firſt had the Title of *Princeſs*, and where the management of her Marriage with *John Carleton* was begun, carried on, and finiſhed; the world hath formerly had an account of it, for in the year 1663. aforeſaid, after her Tryal for having two Husbands was over, and ſhe was cleared and quit, ſhe in a confident bravery did write her own Caſe, cauſed it to be Printed, and had the boldneſs to dedicate it to an Illuſtrious Perſon. The aforeſaid Book I examined, and comparing it with her Husband *Carleton*'s report, cannot find it or her guilty of any conſiderable untruth; therefore I ſhall in the continua-

tion of her ſtory, give it you as ſhe hath related it, according as it is now corrected, and thus as I ſhall proceed. We came, ſaid ſhe, to the *Exchange* Tavern right againſt the *Stocks*, betwixt the *Poultry* and *Cornhill*, the houſe of one Mr. *King*, not having any knowledge of the Maſter or his Acquaintance, and free God knows from any deſign, for I would have entered any other houſe if I had found the doors open, or could have raiſed the Folks nearer to my Landing, for I was diſtempered with the nights paſſage; but it was ſo early in the morning, five a Clock, that there was no body ſtirring elſewhere, only here by mishap Mr. *King* himſelf was up and ſtanding at the Bar, telling of Braſs farthings, whom my Companion deſired to fill a pint of Wine, which he readily performed, and brought to a Room behind the Bar; while the Wine was a drinking

ing (which was Rheniſh Wine, the Complement being put upon me as the Fruit of my own happy Country) He very rudely began to accoſt me, and to offer ſome incivilities to me, which I found no other way to avoid, then by pretending want of reſt to the Maſter of the houſe, and acquainted him with my charge of Jewels, and that I was (as I do juſtifie my ſelf to be) a perſon of Quality. Hereupon a room was provided for me to repoſe my ſelf in, and my Gallant took his leave with a troubleſome promiſe of waiting upon me another day to give me a viſit, which I was forced to admit, and to tell him, I would leave word where ever I went; but he conſidering, as I ſuppoſe, of the unfeaſibleneſs of his deſires, and the publickneſs of the place, neglected his promiſe, and troubled me no more.

He being gone. Mr. *King* began to queſtion me, what Coun-

try woman I was, and of what Religion, I frankly told him; and acquainted him withal what charge I had about me, which to ſecure from the danger of the Town, that was full of cozenage and villany, he adviſed me to ſtay with him till I could better provide for my ſelf.

I reſted my ſelf here till eleven a clock at noon: when I aroſe, and was very civilly treated by Mr. *King*, who well knowing I was a ſtranger, and well furniſhed with mony, omitted no manner of reſpect to me, nor did I ſpend parcimoniouſly, and at an ordinary rate, but anſwerable to the quality and account, at their fetching and itching queſtions, I gave of my ſelf.

This invited him earneſtly, with all ſubmiſs addreſs to requeſt my ſtaying with them till I had diſpached, and had provided all things for my publique appearance, for the better furniſhing

niſhing and equipping whereof, I acquainted Him I would ſend by Poſt to my Steward, for the return of ſome monys to defray the expences thereof, which Letters he viewed, and conceived ſuch imaginations in his Head thereupon, that it never left working till it had wrought the effect of his finely begun, and hopefully continued Enterpriſe.

Theſe Letters he himſelf delivered at my deſire, to have them carefully put into the Male, to the Poſt-houſe; and thereafter obſerved me with moſt manifeſt reſpects. In the *Interim* of the return of theſe monys, I was ſlightly, and as it were by the by, upon diſcourſe of my Country (wherein they took occaſion to be liberally copious) engaged into ſome diſcovery of my Self, my Eſtate and Quality, and the nature of both, the cauſes of my coming hither, *&c.* but I did it ſo unconcernedly, and negligently, as a

matter of no moment or diſturbance to me, though I had hinted at the diſcontent of my Match, that this did aſſure them that all was real, and therefore it was time to ſecure my Eſtate to them by a ſpeedy and ſecret Marriage.

Let the World now judge, whither being prompted by ſuch plain and publick ſignes of a deſigne upon me, to counterplot them, I have done any more then what the Rule, and a received principle of Juſtice directs: *to deceive the deceiver, is no deceit.*

I knew not nevertheleſs, which way their Artifices tended, till Maſter *King*, brought into my acquaintance old Mr. *Carleton* his Father in Law, and ſoon after Mr. *John Carleton* his Son: it ſeems it had been conſulted, to have prefered *George* the Elder Brother: He troubled with a ſimple modeſty, and a mind no way competent to ſo much greatneſs, was laid aſide, and the younger fluſht

and

and encouraged to ſet upon me. By this time they had obtained my Name from me, *viz. Maria de Wolway.*

To the Addreſſes of Mr. *John Carleton*, I carried my ſelf with ſo much indifference, not ſuperciliouſly refuſing his viſits, or readily admitting his ſuit, not diſheartning him with a ſevere retiredneſs, or challenges of his imparity, nor encouraging him with a freedom or openneſs of Heart, or arrogance of my own condition, that he and his friends were upon the ſpur to conſummate the Match, which yet I delayed and diſſembled with convenient pretences, but herein I will be more particular in the enſuing Pages.

In the mean while, to prevent all notice of me, and the diſturbance of their proceedings, that might be occaſioned thereby, they kept me cloſe in the nature of a Priſoner, which though I

perceived, yet I made no ſemblance thereof at all, but colluded with them in their own arts, and pretended ſome averſneſs to all company, but onely my enamourate, Mr. *Carleton*: nor was any body elſe ſuffered to come near me, or to ſpeak with me; Inſomuch, as I have bin informed, that they promiſed 200 *l.* to one, whom for his advice, they had too forwardly, as they thought imparted the buſineſs, the ſum of 200 *l.* to be ſilent, leſt that it ſhould be heard at Court, and ſo the Eſtate and Honour which they had already ſwallowed, would be loſt from their Son, and ſeized by ſome Courtier, who ſhould next come to hear of this great Lady.

After many viſits paſſed betwixt Mr. *Carleton* and my ſelf, Old Mr. *Carleton* and Mr. *King* came to me, and very earneſtly preſſed the diſpatch of the Marriage, and that I would be pleaſed

ſed to give my Aſſent, ſetting forth with all the qualities and great ſufficiences of that Noble perſon, as they pleaſed to ſtile him. I knew what made them ſo urgent, for they had now ſeen the anſwers I had received by the Poſt, by which I was certified of the receipt of mine, and that accordingly ſome thouſands of Crowns ſhould be remitted inſtantly to *London*, and Coach and Horſes ſent by the next Shipping, with other things I had ſent for, and to reinforce this their *commendamus* the more effectually, they acquainted me, that if I did not preſently grant the ſuit, and their requeſt, Mr. *Carleton* was ſo far in love with me, that he would make away with himſelf, or preſently travel beyond Sea, and ſee *England* no more.

I cannot deny, but that I could hardly forbear ſmiling, to ſee how ſerious theſe *Elders* and *Brokers* were in this *Love-killing* ſtory,

ſtory, but keeping to my buſineſs, after ſome demurs and demands, I ſeemed not to conſent, and then they began paſſionately, urging me with other ſtories, ſome of which long repetition I will now inſert:

Wedneſday the firſt of *April*, Mrs. *King* made a great Feaſt, where were divers perſons of quality, as ſhe ſaid, amongſt the reſt, her Brother Mr. *John Carleton*. At which entertainment Mrs. *King* did adviſe me to call her Cozen, the which I did. *Thurſday* the ſecond of *April*, Mr. *John Carleton* came in his Coach, with two Footmen attending on him, calling him my *Lord*, and Mrs. *King* did alſo call him my *Lord*. With that I asked Mrs. *King*, if it was not the ſame perſon that dined with us yeſterday; ſhe ſaid, True, it was ſo, but he was in a Diſguiſe then, and withal, that in a humour he would often do ſo: *But*, ſaith ſhe, *I do*

aſſure

aſſure you he is a Lord. Upon that I replyed, *Then his father muſt be an Earl, if living.* She affirmed, that he was a perſon of great honour. The ſame time my Lord preſented me with a rich box of Sweet-meats: I could do no leſs than thankfully accept thereof.

My Lord came every day to Mr. *King's*, and by his importunity would carry me abroad in a Coach to *Holloway* and *Iſlington*. Mrs. *King* would often ask me, what my Lord did ſay to me; I told her, *nothing that I obſerved, but his Lordſhip abounded in civility, mixt with complements. How*; ſaid ſhe, *Madam, He loves you. Loves me, for what Miſtris* King? I replyed. She ſaid, *For your great parts and Endowments.* I asked her, *How my Lord could tell that I had either.* She ſaid, *My Lord muſt have very good eyes if he could ſee within me, or elſe I muſt be very tranſparent.*

After

After which, I did order the matter ſo, that his acceſs to me was not ſo eaſie: Miſtris *King* importuneth me to admit my Lord to viſit me; I told her plainly, *That I did not underſtand his Lordſhips meaning.* He provided me a great Banquet, at which his Lordſhips Mother was very fine dreſt, who queſtioned what I was. I told my Lord, *That I had received civilities from him, and he had the like from me, and that I had no neceſſity to give any account to any perſon what I was, for any thing that I intended; and that if any deſign or affair of his required any ſuch thing out of convenience. or otherwiſe, he might forbear it.* His Lordſhip excuſed his mothers inquiſition, by ſaying, *She was his Mother, and that Parents did think themſelves concerned, in looking after the good of their Children. But* (ſaid he) *Madam, Wave all this, however I will Marry you to-morrow. What* (ſaid I) *my Lord, without my conſent:* my Lord,

Lord, *I desire your Lordship not to come near me any more, I will not lye under such questioning and scrutiny: Your Lordship will be safe in following my advice, in not coming at me any more.* Upon this his Lordship wept bitterly: I with-drew my self from his presence: He writ a Letter of high Complements to me (the which Letter was lost in that violent surprize of me and my things, by the force of Mr. *George Carleton*, my Husbands Father.) At the same time I had a Gown making upon my own account, by Mrs. *Kings* Taylor in the *Strand*, I took a Coach and went thither; all this while the young Lord not knowing where I was, remained impatient until my return, where I found him standing at the Bar (in a very pensive and melancholy manner, as if he had been arraigned for not paying his reckoning) at the *Exchange* Tavern, and suddenly clasp't about my middle, and violently

lently carried me to my Chamber. I asked his meaning: He answered, *That I had forbid him my presence; that it had almost made him mad; that he desired nothing more of me, then but to let him look upon me.* Upon that he did, with a very strange gesture, fix his eyes upon me: In compassion to him, I askt him what his Lordship meant, and intended; he replyed in a kind of discomposed manner, *I would have you to be my Wife.* I answered him, *My Lord, I rather think you have courted me for a Mistress, than for a Wife: I assure you, that I will never be a Mistress to the greatest of Princes, I will rather chuse to be a Wife to the meanest of men.*

Upon which, he uttered divers asseverations in confirmation of the realty of his intentions, and earnest desire of the Honour in making me his Wife, without any respect to what I had.

After my Lord had insinuated his

his affections ſo far, that I began to underſtand him, and did mix and ſcatter ſome ſuch like acceptable words, which put him into ſome confidence of obtaining me; he began like other Lovers to ſet forth the amplitude of his Fortunes, and thoſe brave things he would do if I would finiſh his ſuit; among many other finenes and Grandures he would beſtow on me, I well remember, he told me that he had given order for a great Glaſs Coach of the new faſhion to be preſently made, againſt our wedding was over, where eleven or twelve might conveniently ſit, and that he would ſute it with a ſet of Lacquies and Pages. the neateſt and handſomeſt of the Town for their Liveries and perſons. That I might ſee I had married a perſon that not onely dearly loved me, but would alſo highly honour me, with the moſt ſplendid accommodations that *England* yeilded.

At

At the very ſame time, he had changed as he told me (and part of it I ſaw) two hundred pounds of ſilver, into two hundred pieces of Gold, for the better portableneſs thereof, that his Princeſs might ſee nothing of meanneſs belonging to him, and that as ſoon as the Coach was made and all things fitted to it, he would preſently go to Court, and carry me with him, and introduce me to the King and Queen: his further intention being, which as yet he concealed to me, to get a *Knight-hood*, and have ſomething of honour to oppoſe the envy of men, that ſo great an Eſtate was conferred on a private perſon.

And now my Lord ſpoke nothing but Rodomantadoes of the greatneſs of his Family, of the delights and ſtatelineſs of his Lands and Houſes, the Game of his Parks, the largeneſs of his Stables, and convenience of

Fiſh

Fish and Foul, for furnishing his liberal and open House-keeping, that I should see *England afforded more pleasure than any place in the World*, but they were (without the Host) reckoned and charged before hand to my account, and to be purchased with my estate, which was his, by a figure of anticipation, when we two should be all one, and therefore he lyed not, but onely equivocated a little.

But he did not in the least mention any such thing to me, nor made any offer or enquiry what I was, no not the least semblance or shadow of it; he seemed to take no notice of my fortunes, it was my person he only courted, which having so happily and accidentally seen, he could not live, if I cherisht not his affections. Nor did I think it then convenient or civil to question the credit of his words, and the report given me of him. His demeanour

I confeſs was light, but I imputed that to his youth, and the vanity of a Gallant, as neceſſary a quality, and as much admired as wit in a Woman.

The laſt day of my virgin ſtate, *Eaſter* Eve, the Taylor brought me my Gown to my Lodging, I being dreſt and adorned with my Jewels, he again renewed his ſuit to me; with all importunity imaginable: His courteous Mother was alſo now moſt forward, preſſing me to conſent by telling me, that *ſhe ſhould loſe her Son, and his wits*, he being already impatient with denyals and delays, adding withal, that he was a perſon hopeful, and might deſerve my condiſcention: I withſtood all their ſollicitation, al hough they continued it until twelve of the Clock that night: The young Lord at his taking his leave of me, told me he would attend me b times the next morning, and carry me to St. *Paul's* Church

Church, to hear the Organs, ſaying, that there would be very excellent Anthems performed by rare voices, the morrow being *Sunday*, the 19. of *April* laſt: in the morning betimes, the young Lord cometh to my Chamber-door, deſiring admittance, which I refuſed, in regard I was not ready; yet ſo ſoon as my head was dreſſed, I let him have acceſs: he haſtned me, and told me his Coach was ready at the door, in which he carried me to his Mothers in the *Grey-friers*, *London*, where I was aſſaulted by the young Lords tears, and others to give my conſent to marry him, telling me that they had a Parſon and a Licenſe ready, which was a meer falſhood, and temporary falicy to ſecure the match.

So on *Eaſter* morning, with three Coaches, in which, with the Bride and Bridegroom, were all the kindred that were privy to the buſineſs, and pretended

a

a licence, they carried me to *Clothfair* by *Smithfield*, and in the Church of great St. *Bartholomews*, Married me by one *Mr. Smith*, who was well paid for his pains: and now they thought themselves possessed of their hopes, but because they would prevent the noise and fame, of their good fortune from publique discourse, that no sinister accident might intervene, before Mr. *Carleton* had bedded me, offence being likely to be taken at Court, (as they whispered to themselves) that a Private Subject had Married a Forraign Princess, they had before determined to go to *Barnet*, and thither immediately after the celebration of the Marriage we were Driven in the Coaches, where we had a handsom treatment, and there we staid *Sunday* and *Munday*, both which nights Mr. *Carleton* lay with me, and on *Tuesday* morning we were Married again, a License being then obtained

obtained to make the match more faſt and ſure, at their inſtance with me to conſent to it.

This being done, and their fears over, they reſolved to put me in a garb befitting the Eſtate and dignity they fancied I had; and they were ſo far poſſeſſed with a belief of it, that they gave out, I was worth no leſs than 80000 *li. per annum*, and my Husband, as I muſt now ſtile him, publiſhed ſo much in a Coffee-houſe; adding withal, to the extolling of his good hap, that there was a further Eſtate but that it was my modeſty or deſign to conceal it: And that he could not attribute his great fortune to any thing but the Fates, for he had not any thing to ballance with the leaſt of my Eſtate and Merits: So do conceited heighths of ſudden proſperity and greatneſs dazle the eyes and judgement of the moſt, nor could this young man be much blamed

for

for his vain-glorious miſtake.

My Cloaths being made at the charge of my Father in Law, and other fineries of the mode and faſhion ſent me by ſome of his Kindred and friends (who prided themſelves in this happy affinity, and who had an eye upon ſome advantages alſo, and therefore gave me this early bribe, as teſtimonies of their early reſpect, and as for Jewels I had of mine own of all ſorts, for Neck-laces, Pendants and Bracelets, of admirable ſplendor & brightneſs. I was in a Princelike attire, and a ſplendid equipage and retinue, accoutred for publique view among all the great Ladies of the Court and the Town on *May* day enſuing. At which time in a Ladies Coach, which the ſame friends procured for my greater accommodation, and accompanied with the ſame Lady with Footmen and Pages, I rode to Hide-Park, in open view of that celebrious Cavalcade

valcade and Assembly, much gazed upon by them all, the eximiousness of my fortune drawing their eyes upon me; particularly that noble Lady gave me precedence, and the right hand, and a neat Treatment after our divertisement of turning up and down the park.

I was altogether ignorant of what estate my Husband was, and therefore made no nicety to take those places his friends gave me, and if I be taxed for incivility herein, it was his fault that he instructed me no better in my quality, for I conceited still that he was some landed, honorable and wealthy man

Things yet went fairly on, the same observances and distances continued, and lodgings befitting a person of Quality taken for me in *Durham Yard*, where my husband and I enjoyed one another with mutual complacency, till the return of the moneys out

of *Germany* failing the day, and their rich hopes, old Mr. *Carleton* began to ſuſpect he was deceived in his expectation, and that all was not gold that gliſtered: but to remove ſuch a prejudice from himſelf, as if he were the Author of thoſe ſcandals that were now prepared againſt my innocence, a Letter is produced, and ſent from ſome then unknown hand, which reflected much upon my Honour and reputation; and thereupon on the fifth or ſixth of *May* enſuing, I was by a Warrant dragged forth of my new Lodgings, with all the diſgrace and contumely that could be caſt upon the vileſt offender in the World, at the inſtigation of old Mr. *Carleton*, who was the Proſecutor, and by him and his Agents deveſted and ſtript of all my Cloaths, and plundred of all my Jewels, and my Money, my very Bodies, and a pair of Silk Stockings, being alſo pulled from me,

and

and in a ſtrange array carried before a Juſtice.

But becauſe this ſtory hath not yet been fully diſcovered, I will more manifeſtly here declare it; That Letter aboveſaid, came from one in *Lumbard-ſtreet.* The contents of this Letter were neer to this purpoſe,

SIR,

I Am unknown to you, but hearing that your Son Mr. John Carleton *hath married a Woman of a pretended great Fortune, and high birth, I thought fit to give you timely notice of what I know, and have heard concerning her, that ſhe is an abſolute Cheat, hath Married ſeveral men in our County of* Kent, *and then run away from them, with what they had; If it be the ſame woman I mean, ſhe ſpeaks ſeveral languages fluently, and hath very high Breaſts,* &c,

I was at the *Exchange* Tavern, as it was deſigned, when this Letter was brought, and thereupon their countenances were ſet to a moſt melancholly look, and pale hue, which ſhewed a mixture of fear and anger: preſently I was brought before the inquiſition of the Family, and examined concerning the ſaid Letter, which I conſtantly, innocently, and diſdainly denyed, ſo that they ſeemed ſomething ſatisfied to the contrary, and ſo my Husband and I went home in a Coach, but that very ſame night, all the gang, came to my lodging, where after moſt vile language, as Cheating Whore, and the like, they pulled me up and down, and kept me ſtript upon a bed, not ſuffering my Husband to come beat me, though I cryed out for him to take my part, and do like a man to ſave me from that violence, who at a diſtance excuſed it, by putting all this barbarity

upon

upon his Father; In fine they left me not a rag, rincing every wet cloath out of the water; and carrying them away, The whole, was a moſt unwomanly and rude Action at the beſt of it, if I had been ſuch as they pretended me to be, and not to be parrallel'd.

See the fickleneſs and vanity of humane things, to day *embelliſhed*, and adorned with all the female Arts of bravery & gallantry, and courted and attended on by the beſt rank of my Sex, who are jealous obſervers what honour and reſpect they give among themſelves, to a very punctilio; and now diſrobed and disfigured in miſhapen Garments, and almoſt left naked, and haled and pulled by Beadles, and ſuch like rude and boyſterous fellows, before a Tribunal, like a leud Criminal.

The Juſtice, by whoſe Mittimus, upon an accuſation managed

by Old Mr. *Carleton*, that I had married two Husbands, both of them in being, I was committed to the *Gate-house*. Being interrogated by the Justice, whither or no I had not two Husbands as was alledged, I Answered, if I had, He was one of them, which I believe incensed Him something the more against me, but I did not know the Authority and Dignity of his place, so much am I a stranger to this Kingdom.

There were other things and crimes of a high nature objected against me besides, That I cheated a Vintner of sixty pounds, and was for that committed to *Newgate*, but that lye quickly vanished, for it was made appear, That I was never a Prisoner there, nor was my name ever recorded in their books; And that I pickt a Kentish Lords pocket, and cheated a French Merchant of Rings, Jewels and other Commodities, That I made an escape, when

ſold and ſhip'd for the *Barbadoes*, but theſe were urged onely as ſurmiſes; and old *Carleton* bound over to proſecute onely for Bigamy, for my having two Huſbands.

Thus the world may ſee how induſtrious miſchief is to ruine a poor helpleſs and deſtitute Woman; who had neither money, friends, nor acquaintance left me; yet I cannot deny that my Husband lovingly came to me at the Gatehouſe the ſame day I was committed, and did very paſſionately complain of his Fathers uſage of me, meerly upon the diſappointment, as he ſaid, of their expectations, and that he could be contented to love me as well as ever, to live with me and own me as a wife, and uſed ſeveral other expreſſions of tenderneſs to me.

Nor have I leſs affection and kind ſentiments for him, whom I own and will own till death diſ-

ſolve the union, and did acquaint him with ſo much there, and proteſted my innocence to him, nor do I doubt could he have prevailed with his Father, but that theſe things had never happened. If now after my vindication he prove faithleſs and renege me, his fault will be doubly greater, in that he neither aſſiſted my innocence when endangered, nor cheriſhed it when vindicated by the Law.

In this Priſon of the Gatehouſe I continued ſix weeks, in a far better condition than I promiſed my ſelf, but the greater civilities I owe to the Keeper: as I am infinitely beholding to ſeveral perſons of quality, who came at firſt I ſuppoſe out of curioſity to ſee me, and did ther after nobly compaſſionate my calamitous and injurious reſtraint.

All that troubled me was an abuſive Pamphlet which went under my Husbands name, wherein,

in, moſt pitifully he pleaded his frailty and misfortune, and intitled it to no leſſer precedent then *Adam*, which I ſuppoſe was had out of the new *Ballad*, of *your Humble Servant*, a hint whereof, pleaſe the Reader to take in this Abridgement.

Reader,

I ſhall not give my ſelf the trouble, to recollect and declare the ſeveral motives and inducements that deceitful, but wiſe enough, Woman uſed to deceive me with, &c. *Her Wit did more and more ingage and charm me: Her Qualities deprived me of my own; Her Courteous Behaviour, her Majeſtick Humility to all perſons, her Emphatical ſpeeches, her kind and loving expreſſions; and amongſt other things, her high deteſtation of all manner of Vice, as Lying*, &c. *Her great Pretence to zeal in her Religion; her modeſt Confidence and Grace in all Companies, Fearing the knowledge of none; her demeanour was ſuch, that ſhe left*

no room for Suſpition, not onely in my opinion, but alſo in others both Grave and Wiſe. And all this is real and not feigned, and more convincingly and apparently true, by this foil of his own ſetting: As for his undertaking, to tell the Story of the management of the buſineſs betwixt us; he is ſo far from doing me juſtice herein, that he wrongeth me and his own ſoul by lying.

For Confutation of which, I refer the Reader to the enſuing Tryal; Onely there is one paſſage that I am unwilling to let ſlip, that is, he ſaith there, that my Father was in Town upon my Commitment, and did acknowledge me to be his Daughter, and that I had played many ſuch tricks. It's ſtrange this Father of mine could not be produced at the Tryal, if that had been true.

And yet a little before this, upon his viſiting me in the *Gate-houſe*,

house, where I was deſtitute of money and ſubſiſtence, at my firſt coming in he ſeemed very tender of me, and charged the Keeper I ſhould want nothing, for as far as 40 ſhillings went, he would ſee him pay'd, which I believe he muſt e're long, and after that ſent me a Letter, which is the only Paper I have by me of his, the other amorous and loving ſcriblings being loſt and taken from me, the ſame time that they plundered me of my Jewels, I do not know what I may do for them, but I hope I ſhall never cry for thoſe Epiſtles. This done in theſe words, ſo I at my Love and my Dear, could be hot and cold almoſt in an inſtant.

My

My Dearest Heart,

Although the manner of your Usage may very well call the sincerity of my Affection and Expressions to you in question; yet when I consider, that thou art not ignorant of the Compulsion of my Father, and the Animosity of my whole Relations, both against You and my Self for Your sake, I am very confident your goodness will pardon and pass by those things which at present I am no way able to help; And be you confident, That notwithstanding my Friends aversion, there shall be nothing within the reach of my power shall be wanting, that may conduce both to your liberty, maintenance, and Vindication. I shall very speedily be in a condition to furnish you with Money, to supply you according to your desire. I hope Mr. Bayly will be very civil to you; and let him be assured, he shall in a most exact measure

meaſure be ſatisfied, and have a Requital for his Obligation. My dearest, always praying for our happy meeting.

I reſt, Your moſt affectionate Husband.

May the 11th. 1663.

John Carleton.

Other of my Husband's Friends came to Viſit me in the *Gatehouſe*, (of the many hundreds of other I ſhall ſay nothing) one of them ſaid, Madam, I am one of your Husband's Friends and Acquaintance, I had a deſire to ſee you, becauſe I have heard of your breeding. Alas, ſaid I, I have left that

that in the City amongſt my Kindred, becauſe they want it.

Another in his diſcourſe delivered as an Aphoriſm, *That marriage, and hanging went by Deſtiny.* I told him, *I had received from the Deſtinies Marriage, and he in probability might Hanging.* To wave many others of the like nature.

My innocence furniſhed me with ſeveral of thoſe anſwers, and repartees to the mixt ſort of Viſitants, who either for novelty or deſign came to trouble me. I was adviſed indeed to ſeclude my ſelf from ſuch company, but becauſe there might be no diſadvantage pretended by reaſon I kept cloſe, and evidence might be puzled, not having ſeen me in ſo long a time, as afterwards at my Tryal might have been ſuggeſted, I gave all perſons the freedom of my Chamber. But for the Nobler ſort, I may in ſome meaſure thank my ſtars, that out of this misfortune extracted

ſo

ſo much bliſs, as the honour of their acquaintance, which otherwiſe at large I had been in no capacity to attain.

The time of the Seſſions of the Peace for *London* and *Middleſex* being arrived, I was conveyed from the *Gate-houſe* to *Newgate*; where by the civility of the Maſter of the Priſon I had Lodgings aſſigned me in his own houſe, which adjoyns to the Seſſions-houſe-yard; and there I was publickly ſeen by all comers: that my enemies might want no advantage of informing their witneſſes of my Perſon, Age and condition, and ſo ſquare their Evidence: but my innocence and my good Angels preſerved me from the worſt of their malice.

From thence, on *Wedneſday*, *June* the third, in the evening, the firſt day of the Courts ſiting in the *Old-Bayly*, I was brought down to the Bar: and there an Indictment upon my Arraignment

was

was read againſt me; to which I pleaded Not guilty: and, as inſtructed by my friends, & a good conſcience, (being altogether ignorant of the Laws and Cuſtoms of this Kingdom) put my ſelf for my Tryal upon God and the Country, without making any exception, or ever ſo much as examining what my Jury were.

And becauſe they approved themſelves men of honeſty, judgment and integrity, and did me ſo much juſtice, I can do no leſs than take occaſion here to return them my humble thanks, that they would regard the oppreſſed condition of a helpleſs Priſoner; and not give credit to the wicked aſſeverations of a wretch, who only ſwore to the purpoſe againſt me: and to let the world know my particular gratitude, I will tranſcribe into this my *Caſe*, as one of the happieſt and faireſt remarks therein, the

names

names of those upright Jurors, *viz.*

William Rutland,
Arthur Vigers,
Arthur Capel,
Tho. Smith,
Fran. Chaplin,
Robert Harvey,
Simon Driver,
Robert Kerkham,
Hugh Masson,
Tho. Wesley,
Richard Clatterbuck, and
Randolph Tooke.

The Indictment was *in hec verba*.

That she the said Mary Moders, late of London Spinster, otherwise Mary Stedman, the wife of Tho. Stedman late of the City of Canterbury in the County of Kent Shooe-maker, 12 May, in the Reign of his now Majesty the fifth, at the Parish of St. Mildreds in the City of Cant. in the County aforesaid, did take to husband the

the aforesaid Tho. Stedman, and him the said Thomas Stedman then and there had to husband. And that she the said Mary Moders, alias Stedman, 21 April, in the 15 year of his said Majesties Reign, at London, in the Parish of Great St. Bartholomews, in the Ward of Farringdon without, seloniously did take to husband one John Carleton, and to him was married, the said Tho. Stedman her former husband then being alive, and in full life: against the form of the Statute in that case provided, and against the Peace of our said Soveraign Lord the King, his Crown and Dignity, &c.

Thus have you read her Case, as she her self relates it, and by this you may see how this Cheat was managed on both sides *Carleton*, and his Friends were as Covetous as she was Cunning, how she contrived to have answer of her Letters

Letters from the Forreign Poſt, which coming to their hands blinded them, and cauſed them to imagine her no leſs then a Princeſs; I know not but theſe Letters were her Maſter-peice; It was this that was the beſt Card in the whole Pack. They had ſeen her Jewels before as her Landlady told her Brother *Carleton.*

Jewels ſhe hath as ſanguine Ruly,
Onix and Saphyr with a blew dye
Diamond and Topas with the Opal
Emerald and Agate Turquex: take all
What ſhall I ſay ſhe hath Gems in plenty
Pray enter on her Rome is empty.

The ſight of theſe Jewels were enough to perſwade an eaſie Soul to great matters, but when the Letters come that mentioned thouſands of Crowns, and a Coach and Horſes, they were all then Cock a hoop, and ſtark nothing then but clapping up of a Mar-

a Marriage was diſcourſed of; but her Landlord was miſtaken in his opinion of this *German* Princeſs, for no leſs did he take her to be, and therefore being very deſirous to advance his Brother *John Carleton*, the Father, Mother, and all the Friends ſat in cloſe Conſultation.

Their Daddy, Mammy, Friend and
Knight,
In Judgement one did all Unite
And did agree without long tarry
That Knight ſhould Lady Princeſſe
Marry.
But as the Counſel was adjourning,
The Lady Siſter entered Mourning,
Acquainting them that Forreigne
Knight
With Cole black hair and eyes like
ſpright,
Had at the houſe enquiry made
For German Princeſs, and like Blade
Or Gallant, A la Mode did Swear
That Heart from Body he would
Tear

Of

Of him that durſt Crack Princeſs Nut,
Or dare with her to go to Rut,
And whereſoere he found the Man
Should dare to Uſher Princeſs hand,
Withal head give two hundred pound
Princeſs to ſee on Engliſh *ground,*
That he might Carry her to Cullen
With greater Joy then Anne *from* Bullen.

This Meſſage, if it were true, muſt needs amaze and terrifie them all much more when it was ſeconded by another Alarum: Letters ſent to enquire of her.

They finding freſh purſuit by Letters
To find out Princeſs though in Fetters,
With promiſe freſh to give more mony
To him ſhould tell where lay dear hony.

All theſe paſſages how contrived I know not, but it put them all upon the Spur to finiſh the Marriage, which as you have read,

was

was Celebrated at Great St. *Bartholomews*, And then

They drove away to place called
Barnet,
And with them took a friend called
Garnet,
Where being come they fell a eating,
And hungry, All threw Wine and
Meat in
Like Misers at a City Feast
That eat ten Meals, nine at least;
At length their Guts being stuff'd with
food,
And all being set on merry Mood,
They did begin to Dance and Caper,
Like Poppet made up with brown
paper.
Princess began a German *Dance,*
And Friend to Buff like Mars *did*
Prance.
The Lord did Dance in order meet,
And Elder Brother on's bare feet,
An Ancient Custome where young Cit,
Before his Elder --- doth hit.
At length the Couple went to Bed,
And Cap was put on young Lords head,

The

The Poſſet too of Sack was eaten,
And Stockin thrown too (all beſweaten)
Which Ceremonies being ended,
And that days work by all Commended,
The Elder Brother and his Friend,
Bid him Ride ſoft to's Journys end,
Wiſhing them ſport at very heart,
They left the Lord at Princeſs Mart.

Our young Lord being thus aſſured of his Princely Bride, was very well pleaſed, but ſo was not his Father, who like a grave Pollitician, thought fit firſt to ſecure her Perſon better by a ſecond Marriage, for the firſt being done on haſte, was without a Licence, and ſecondly he intended to ſecure her Eſtate by a Writing drawn to that purpoſe, which was offered her to Seal, as thus you have it.

When houſe was cleared of all but
Friends,
On Princeſs there was further ends

Inten-

Intended to be done in instance,
Married to be again with Licence
For to prevent the Lawyers baul,
In Court Ecclesiastical,
The which was done, and then Old Sir,
With Instrument well drawn Suns blue:
Reciting Princess Earth in hand,
And personal goods about to land;
Desiring the sum might be made over,
To Lord his Son and her great Lover:
To this he hoped sheed not be shie
Being to prevent Mortalitie,
Sir Quoth the Princess, I'le consult
My Pillow and give you result,
But till I die, I think not fit,
To part with State, or wealth one bit,
Besides your Son's to me but light wood,
And hant received Honor of Knighthood,
Though in regard of my high Birth,
He's called Lord with Cap to the earth,
And Judge pray Sir when Friends Arrive,

And

And ſee their Princeſs Scriveners Wife.
Wilt not diſparage high Diſcent,
As Garters in Rump Parliament.
Like Child rebuk'd crying for knife,
Stood rather without Soul or Life,
Or without Fodder Cow in pound,
Or Ape in Chain with Whip ſcourged round,
At length he ſpake to Princeſs face
With homeſpun Language Coblers grace;
May it pleaſe your Highneſs Daughter I
No harm did think moſt verily,
Quoth ſhe, pray Sir, no more of this,
We do forgive what is a miſſe,
And for to ſatisfie your Will,
Time and his Love ſhall it fulfil.

Ah witty Baggage, ſhe had her anſwer as ready as they their queſtion, and ſtill ſhe carried her ſelf in all actions with ſuch bravery, that they had not the leaſt ſuſpicion, for the old man being fully ſatisfied, let looſe ſome of his old angels, furniſhed her with

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Cloaths, as ſhe her ſelf hath related, and her Husband *Carleton* told me within theſe few days, that the whole expenſe upon this account did coſt 160 *l.* and this was all ſpent in one Months time, for no longer did they live together, the occaſion ſhe hath already told you, was by a Letter, and ſo ſaith her Husband, and I believe it ſo to be, but ſome ſay it was by a Shoemaker that coming to make her Shoes, knew her when ſhe had lived with her Husband *Stedman*; that ſhe knew him, and took no notice but ſent him away angry, wherefore he

Contrived in his Horny Pate,
Malice againſt the Lords Bed-Mate.

And hereupon one day waiting for our Lord and his Princeſs return from *Hide Park*, where they were gone to aire themſelves;

At coming home unto their Court,
St. Hugh to Lord did ſtrait reſort,
Told him he could relate ſad Story
Would make him weep in all his glory,
And curſe the time that ever he,
His Hawk at Hobby did ſet flee,
Enough to put him into lax,
Not to be ſtaid by Coblers wax.
The Knight did wonder what he meant,
And pray'd him to declare intent.
Of his addreſs, for he did make
His teeth to Chatter, knees to ſhake,
Why then quoth he, your Lady Gay
Is Kentiſh breed, and Crowders ſpray,
And Martied is to a Shoemaker,
That is no Cobler nor Tranſlator,
And hath to boot (tak't not in dudgeon)
Another Husband called a Surgeon,
And you in order make the third,
And Princeſs is not worth a ---

This muſt needs be heavy news to our young Lord, but whither the diſcovery was made by this Shoemaker or the aforeſaid Letter, matters not much, but her husband tells me, that ſhe her ſelf attempted it ſeveral times her ſelf to him, for ſhe would be melancholy, and ſay ſhe neither deſired nor deſerved that attendance, and great expence, and that ſhe was undone unleſs he would pitty her; and many broken ſpeeches out of which he might, but at preſent did not, pick out her meaning, for although he did not believe her to be a Princeſs, yet he was very confident that ſhe was a Lady of that Name and quallity which ſhe had named her ſelf to be; as for her Eſtate he never enquired what and where it was, but did not queſtion but ſome ſhe had, and that conſiderable; but however he does proteſt to me that he loved

ved her not ſo much out of reſpect of that, as her good parts, with which ſhe was plentifully ſtored, and knowing how in all Companies to demean her ſelf ſo, that it was clearly her perſon and parts that he eſteemed her for, neither could it be expected he ſhould look for much, for he was very young, not full 19. years old, he followed his own inclinations as to her perſon, and the advice of his Friends as to her Eſtate, they had examined that as much as they durſt, or indeed could. But in concluſion, thus they found themſelves outwitted, ſhe not what they expected, and then their anger and revenge cauſed their carriage to her to be very courſe, and indeed ſcurvy, as ſhe hath already, and I ſhall once again relate it.

The Lackey-Boy was ſent away
To Father and to Mother; Nay,
His Siſter too, the good Match-maker,
Of Story true muſt be Partaker:
Who being come, the Lord did tell
His ſad miſchance, which made 'em yell,
And to exclaim 'gainſt German Lady
That had abus'd poor little Baby.
At laſt they went into Bed-Chamber,
Where Princeſs lay like Dog in Manger,
Till aged Sir did her importune
The truth to tell, if ſuch a Fortune,
Or where ſhe was a German Princeſſe,
Or who had taken her by th' Inches
'Fore Son did enter Lower Quarters,
Or who wore Senior Cobler's Garters
When he did Marry her in Church,
And who ſhe lam'd and brought to Crutch;
And who it was beſides did ſcrub her,
And what the Surgeon was did probe her.

This

This fierce assault did make the Lady
To stand as mute as Joynted Baby,
And was surpriz'd to hear the Gabble
Of this connext and joyned Rabble,
By which the Women thought her guilty,
With hand and knee they hilty tilty
Most shamefully did her assault,
Which made her Royal Back to halt,
Whilst antedated *Lord stood by,*
And like Boy whipt did snob and cry:
At last Old Man as fierce as Hector,
Having more of Henbane then of Nectar
Lay'd hands upon the Ladies Garments,
Jewels and Rings, and her Attirements,
And Gouty Shank was held aloff:
And new Silk-Stocking, plucked off:
In fine, they stript her to her Smock,
So fine, you might have seen her Nock.
Then much despis'd by bawling Litter,
Which made before their Chops to twitter.

When all Indignities were over,
In German Vest *they did her cover,*
With Justacore *and a* Night-Rayle,

And Petticoat all black to th' tayle,
The ſame reſerved by Ships Maſter,
VVhen ſhe eſcaped from forraign Cloy-
ſter,
Thence brought 'fore Godfrey *not of*
Bullion,
For this did uſe her like a Scullion;
And ſo by Beadle fell and Hoſtile,
He ſent her to the Gate-houſe Baſtille:
VVhere being come, the Gates flew
open
For to receive Dutch Fro Van
Slopen,
As great Compánion come to dwell
In Priſon cloſe much like to Hell.
The noiſe of Princes cloſe reſtraint,
Sent Perſons great to hear her Plaint
But when they heard her to diſcourſe,:
They netled were like Pamper'd Horſe;
And did applaud her high-bred
Parts,
Not to be equaliz'd at Marts,
Or Ladies ſome with face like Maple,
That ſpend their time in tittle-tattle,
VVith great reſpect they did her treat,
And ſent in Money, VVine and Meat,

And

And Bribes to Keeper to be civil,
As he that Candle holds to Devil:
Where I will leave her to her Fate,
Still great, though in confin'd eſtate:
And for her high-conceited Lord,
When Reputation he had ſcor'd
On Tick *and borrow, then he went*
To Chamber where he Body pent,
Believing German *Knight would call*
His Lordſhip to account for all
His baſe abuſing Princely Dame,
And uſing her with ſo much ſhame:
And Parents full with ſhame and ire,
Did mope and dote like Cats by Fire.

And now I have agen brought her to the Gate-houſe, and from thence ſhe was conveyed to the Seſſions-houſe in the *Old Bay'y*, to take her Tryal. Great was the confluence of people to behold her, the preſence of a real Princeſs could not have drawn more Company together than this Counterfeit one did; her Indictment being read, and ſhe ſet to the Bar in order to her Tryal, prayed time till the next day, her Witneſſes not being ready; this was granted, and ſhe conferring with ſeveral Friends who came to adviſe her, was agen the next day brought to her Tryal; the moſt material and conſiderable Witneſs that came againſt her was one *James Knot*, who gave in evidence that he gave the Priſoner at the Bar in Marriage to one *Thomas Stedman* a Shoemaker, who was then alive in *Dover*, that they were Married in *Canterbury* in

in St. *Mildreds* Church by one Parſon *Man*, that was then dead; that the Marriage was about nine years before, that they lived together about four years, and had two Children. This was the ſum of what he ſaid to prove the Marriage; but being asked by the Court ſeveral croſs queſtions, he could not fully and clearly anſwer, for he acknowledged that there was no other company but himſelf, the parties, her Siſter, the Parſon who was dead, and the Sexton, who he knew not where to find, neither could he tell after what manner they were Married, neither was their Marriage Regiſtred. Thus was his evidence but ſlender, not being ſeconded by any other, for all elſe ſpake by report; the ſecond Marriage to *Carleton* was not only proved, but acknowledged by the Priſoner, who made a very pathetick Speech, alledging that all this

was

was the malice of her Husbands Father, and how her Husband had courted her as he pretended, only for her virtues, amiable perſon, and noble deportment, that ſhe had often deſired him to deſiſt, but that he or his Friends having intercepted ſome of her Letters, whereby they underſtood how conſiderable her means were, they therefore hurried her to Church to be Married; that her Husbands Father afterwards conſidering ſhe had a conſiderable Fortune preſſed her that in reſpect ſhe had no Relations here to make over her Eſtate to his Son, that it would be much for her Honour, ſatisfaction of the world, and for which ſhe would be Chronicled for a Rare Woman; that ſhe having refuſed it, they had robbed her of her Jewels and Clothes

Clothes of great value, and declared that ſhe had formerly been Married to one at *Canterbury*, which place ſhe ſaid ſhe knew not, and that this was grounded on a Letter of their own framing; that thereupon they had violently carried her from her Lodging before a Juſtice of Peace, only to affright her to make her Eſtate over; that they charging her with this Fact, ſhe was bound over and committed.

That ſince then they had been up and down the Countrey, and finding none there fit for their purpoſe; they had gotten an unknown fellow to ſwear againſt her. She alledged that if any ſuch Marriage had been, there might be a Certificate from the Miniſter or Regiſter; but nothing of that nature was to be found; and that that only Wit-

Witneſs could not ſay whether ſhe was lawfully Married, or how; ſhe did aver that ſhe was never yet Married to any but *John Carleton*, whom ſhe called pretended Lord; but that thoſe perſons had ſought alwayes to take away her life; hiring people to ſwear againſt her, & had laid ſeveral ſcandals againſt her, and had framed this of themſelves. That ſhe was a Stranger and Forreigner, and being informed that there was matter of Law in the Tryal, her Innocence ſhould be her Counſellor, and their Lordſhips her Judges, to whom ſhe did refer her cauſe. That ſince ſhe had been in Priſon, ſeveral from *Canterbury* had been with her; but as the Keeper could juſtifie they all declared that they did not know her.

This

This was her Plea, which she uttered with such a becoming Confidence as pleased all her Auditors. And the Court having heard some Witnesses that she produced on her side, to take off the allegations of those that had witnessed against her, and finding such slender proof of the Indictment, they therefore gave this Charge to the Jury.

That there was an Indictment against *Mary Moders* alias *Stedman*, for having two Husbands at one time alive, *Stedman* and *Carleton*; that they had heard the proof of the first Marriage which depend upon one Witness, *Knot*; that all the Evidence given on that side to prove her guilty of the Indictment depended upon his single Testimony; that he said she was Married at *Canterbury*; but the particulars or manner

of

of the Marriage he did not remember. If ſhe were Born there, Married there, and as he ſaid had two Children there; and lived there ſo long, it were eaſie to have brought ſomebody to prove this, that that was all that was material for the firſt Marriage; for the ſecond there was little proof neceſſary ſhe confeſſing it, the queſtion was whether ſhe were Married to *Stedman* or not. They had heard what defence ſhe had made; now if they did believe that *Knot* the ſingle Witneſs had ſpoke the truth, they ſaw what the Circumſtances were; it were Penal if guilty, ſhe muſt dye, a Woman hath no Clergy, ſhe was to dye by the Law if guilty. This was the whole of the directions of the Court, leaving it to the Verdict of the Jury, who going forth after ſome ſhort Conſultation, returned and gave in their Verdict of *Not Guilty*,

Guilty, to the great joy of the *Priſoner*, and the great ſatisfaction of the Auditors, who expreſſed their content in Clapping their hands and loud noiſe.

But many of thoſe that were now ſo glad, had little cauſe for it afterwards; for I know ſome that were then there preſent, and were as they expreſſed themſelves to me, mighty well pleaſed that the *German Princeſs* had come off ſo well, theſe very perſons were not long after Cheated by her of a conſiderable quantity of Plate, and then they curſed her as much as now they magnified her for a great wit, and brave Woman. But I ſhall very ſuddenly come to the Relation of ſome of thoſe ſtories, but firſt I will finiſh this of her Marriage, Husband, and his Relations, who indeed were very ſevere in their proſecution, and there was much of malice in their actions, for they not only

only indicted her for this Marriage with *Stedman* of *Canterbury*, but alledged her other Marriage with the Chyrurgeon at *Dover*, but they could make nothing of it; and much leſs of another Marriage which was pretended with an old doating Bricklayer, who alſo Indicted her, but the Bill was not found, and he when he came to Newgate to ſee his pretended Wife the *German Princeſs*, he did not know her, but miſtook another for her, with whom he held large diſcourſe to little purpoſe, and therefore I I ſhall omit it. I have been informed that he had been choufed by ſome ſuch peece as our Princeſs, but whether it was ſhe her ſelf, the Devil in her likeneſs, or ſome body elſe, that was endued with ſome of her good qualities I know not, but ſhe for her part always denyed it, ſtileing him Ridiculous Dotard,

tard, and one that could be no younger than Brother to Mother *Shipton*. But let this ſuffice concerning this fellow.

She being acquitted by the Jury, deſired of the Court that her Jewels and Clothes might be reſtored; the Court acquainted her that they were her Husbands, and that if any deteined them from her, he might have his remedy; She then charging old *Carleton* with them, he declared they were in the cuſtody of his Son her Husband.

And now being cleared by the Law, ſhe was diſcharged of her Impriſonment on *Saturday* the 6th. day of *June*, and ſhe did confeſs and declare that ſhe had been very civilly uſed by the Maſters and Keepers of both the Priſons, and great reaſon they had for ſo doing, for great was the gain they received by this *Diana*, ſhe was ſo famous

and

and ſo generally beloved and viſited by all, that ſhe fared the better, and ſo did thoſe who had her in Cuſtody ſo great Novelty had not been known or ſeen in our age, nor in any other age as I can read of, I never heard of her Parallel in every thing, and I believe had ſhe been expoſed to publique ſhew for profit, ſhe might have raiſed 500 *l.* of thoſe that would have given 6 *d.* and 12 *d.* a peece to ſee her; It was the only talk for all the Coffee-houſes in and near *London*.

Before ſhe left her old Lodging in New-Gate ſhe was offered twenty ſeveral other Lodgings in other places in and about *London*, ſo many Friends ſhe had who all courted her Company in hopes of great profit by her preſence; but I believe ſome of them may have by this time repented it, if ever ſhe came into any

any of their houſes, for it is well known that ſhe rarely miſſed of playing ſome ſuch project in any of her Lodgings as ſhould occaſion them to Court her to be agen their Tenant; ſhe was not often ſought after by any of her Landlords to continue or return to their houſes; but ſhe was frequently hunted out to clap her up in a ſtronger, at her old Lodging in Newgate, whither in time ſhe returned; but before that ſhe had many pranks to play, and the firſt was to ſee what further advantage ſhe might make of her Husband *Carleton*, and if ſhe could not get, ſhe endeavoured not to loſe by him, her Clothes and Jewels ſhe wanted, and therefore knowing that he was in *Greys Inn*, ſhe takes Lodging in *Fullers Rents*, which was not far from it, and not long after according to her expectation

her

her Husband *Carleton* comes; his buſineſs was to deſire her not to proſecute his Father for the deteining of the Jewels; and hers was to get them, and in order thereto to allure her Husband to ſtay with her, but he being in the Company, Cuſtody and Tuition of his Maſter, ſhe miſſed, of her ends, and ſo they abruptly broke off. She having thus miſſed ſent a Letter to him, but receiving no anſwer, ſhe went boldly to old *Carleton*, and boldly knocking at his dore, he asked who was there? She anſwered, your Daughter when a Princeſs, but now your Sons Wife; he demanded her buſineſs, ſhe told him ſhe came to demand her Jewels and other things, and alſo her Husbands perſon, he replyed in ſhort, that for the Jewels her Husband had them, and for himſelf he was gone; ſhe then threatning him to take her courſe departed. Thus

Thus you ſee what applications ſhe made for her Jewels and Husband. As for him he tells me that ſhe was very deſirous to Cohabit with him, and did ſeveral times afterwards woe him to it, but he knowing her inclination and temper, declined, and wholly refuſed. And as for the Jewels, he tells me they were Counterfeit; but ſhe alledges that they being offered in *Cheapſide* to a Goldſmith, he valued them at 1500 *l.* This I believe is a lye and a loud one, neither do I believe they were of ſo little value as her Husband *Carleton* reporteth.

She having acted as far as ſhe could with her Husband, ſent him this Farewel,

THere was a time when Skinker
Perkin (*kin*:
Leapt into Prince *from a Freeze Jer-*
Time alſo was, as't has been ſed,
When Fryar Bacon's *brazen Head*
Spoke

Spoke monſtrous things, but We do tell
Of ſtranger things that have befel,
How pretty Monkey in diſguiſe
Held Peſcod *in her Mouth as prize.*
Oh fatal time! how couldſt thou be
So cruel in thy Managery?
More fierce then erſt thou waſt to Fellow
Who though in rage with Drink more mellow,
Did all his ſorepaſt Fancies deem
Of Drunken brain the paſſing ſteem.
Oh my ſweet Peſcod, *prethee think*
Like him, that all thy hopes was drink.

And having ſpent ſome time in being treated by that numerous company that reſorted to her, and coveted her acquaintance, and in this manner ſpent all the Money ſhe had, was now to conſider of ſome courſe to raiſe more. Dyet and Lodging muſt be paid for, and Clothes muſt be had too, and though ſome fluſh'd young Gallants that kept her Company pitying her condition, would either lend or give her a Piece or two ſometimes,

ſometimes, and ſhe had a very good faculty of begging or borrowing; for ſhe was very well gifted in the Art of High-drinking, and when ſhe ſaw her Cullies were Maudlin drunk and kind-hearted, ſhe would pretend ſome preſent occaſion; and borrow what they had about them. Nay, ſhe had ſo rare a faculty in this Art, that when ſhe was a Priſoner in the *Gate-Houſe*, ſhe prevailed with one of her fellow Priſoners to lend her five Pounds. This was much for a Priſoner to do, and ſuch a one too as I very well knew was not worth five Pounds more in the world, and without any Eſtate or Calling, no Employment, but a pretended Artiſt; and one who gave himſelf out to be a right *Roſi Crucian*, and Secretary to God and Nature, a Fellow, that if he had any knowledge, knew not of it himſelf, for he could not utter, and had only a parcel of hard words, with which perſons being affected, and ex-

pecting ſome great matters from him, he lived upon them, and particularly one perſon of Honour from whom he had lately gained that money, and then having given him ſome abuſe, and being in diſgrace, was clapt up from this Fellow; ſhe borrowed, but I believe never returned, who I am ſure was often ſince in want of ſix Pence. If ſhe had the Art of wheedling this Fellow, ſure ſhe might do more upon others; but that Courſe failing, and ſhe being now generally acquainted and reſorted to, the Players in hopes of gaining by her, entertained her as an Actreſs. She who had acted on the large Theatre of the World in publick, now came to act in a ſmall Theatre, I cannot ſay in private, for it was publick enough at all times, but much more when ſhe preſented her Part thereon, for it was a Play of her own ſelf that ſhe acted in; it was ſtiled by her glorious Name of *The German Princeſs.*

Princeſs. As for my own part, although I have been a great frequenter of thoſe Divertiſements, yet I never went to ſee her, but thoſe who did, tell me, that although there was a great Confluence of People to behold her, yet ſhe did not perform ſo well as was expected; many have exceeded her in that particular, and that ſhe acted much better, and more to the life, in the wide World than in that Epitomie. I do not remember that ever I ſaw the Play, but I think the *Epilogue* ſpoken by her ſelf at laſt was thus,

I have paſt one Trial, but it is my fear
I ſhall receive a Rigid Sentence here.
You think me a bold Cheat, put caſe
'twere ſo,
Which of you are not, now you'd ſwear
I know.
But do not, leſt that you deſerve to be
Cenſured worſe, then you can cenſure
me.

The World's a Cheat, and we that move in it,
In our degrees do exerciſe our Wit;
And better 'tis to get a glorious Name,
However got, then live by Common Fame.

I queſtion not but ſhe had Clapping and general Applauſe, but every new thing being as they ſay, but nine dayes wonder; hers was not to laſt many years, although it is now juſt nine years from her thus firſt acting on the Stage, to her laſt acting at the Gallows. There was a Report indeed, when ſhe was firſt diſcharged from *Newgate*, that ſhe intended to turn Actreſs at one of the Theatres, and that ſhe would ſet up a Coffee-Houſe: I ſuppoſe this was only the opinion of people, who thought thoſe Employments fit for her; but however ſhe was mighty angry at it, and ſaid that it was a Flam given out to ſully her Name and Reputation; but it had been better for her to have applied her mind to, and

and continued at her acting at the Theatre, or elſe have taken a *Coffee-Houſe*, at which Employment ſhe might have done well enough, and which Trade her Husband *Carleton* was afterwards neceſſitated to take up, but ſhe had other Fiſh to fry: She had a running Brain, and the whole City of *London* was too little for her to act in, indeed a bad fate purſued her, and ſhe was to run on for a while, the Squib was to run to the end of the Rope, and then bounce, flaſh, and make its *Exit.* It was her Fate to do ſome more worthy actions, ſuch as would bring her again before her twelve Godfathers, who would not be out-witted when her Crimes were miſchievous; as for the future you ſhall find them, and as numerous as ever were committed by any in ſo ſhort a time, which was indeed too long to the Coſt of thoſe with whom ſhe had acquaintance.

Before ſhe left the Theatre, ſhe had a large parcel of young Cullies, that having heard of her Fame, and ſeen her Perſon, were very deſirous of a nearer acquaintance, and ſhe who mightily loved Company and Gallantry, was free enough of acceſs, and treated them all with a gallant Indifferency; among the reſt of her admirers, there were a couple of young Fellows that had more Money than Wit, and ſo doted on hers, and for that cauſe kept her Company; they had other deſigns then barely her converſe, for they deſired a nearer aſſociation with her Body, ſhe knew their meaning by their whineing, and accordingly was reſolved to make her advantages, they ſought out opportunities of being private with her, and ſhe uſed ſuch artifice, that ſhe would not entertain them but in Company, only ſometimes in a large Room at a Tavern, ſhe would ſtep to an odd corner with one of them

them, who pretending ſome private Buſineſs, would then deſire to know when he might wait on her at her Lodging; ſhe would commonly anſwer them, that ſhe was ſeldom there, but when ſhe ſlept, being forced to ſpend all the Day at the Theatre, and the Evening ſhe dedicated to the ſervice of him and ſuch other worthy Company as were deſirous of hers, ſo that ſhe had no time to ſpare for attending on her Employ, which ſhe began to be weary of: Her Cully then deſires her to leave it off, and tells her that ſhe might live better, and more at eaſe in her private Lodgings, telling her, that if ſhe will do ſo, he will not be wanting to contribute handſomely to her Maintenance, ſhe thanks him, and tells him ſhe will conſider, and ſuddenly reſolve of it; he then gives her ſome further knowledge of his affection to her, which ſhe anſwers very obligingly, and withall, takes occaſion to tell

him that ſhe wants ſuch a Point-Lace, or ſome ſuch other thing to Act in, or to commend his Watch or a Ring, and ſo get it from him. Thus did ſhe handle theſe two Blades for ſome time, without letting one know of the others Pretences. Their importunity at laſt prevails with her to leave the Play-Houſe and her Lodging, for which and her Diet they both ſeverally pay; and now ſhe was to play a private Game, and finding that theſe young Fools had Money, ſhe intends to have her ſhare of it. They both Court her for the happy time, as they call it, of enjoyment; ſhe tells one of them that ſhe is in hopes of being reconciled to her Husband, which ſhe deſires above all things, telling him that ſhe knew then ſhe might have opportunities enough without ſcandal, for ſhe knows him to be of ſo eaſie a Nature, that ſhe can over rule him, and that untill that time, ſhe muſt carry her ſelf

with

with all warineſs and circumſpection, and withall tells him, that ſhe doubts the other is ſo converſant with her, as being only ſet on by her Husband to look into her Actions. This Tale pleaſes her Lover, and cleers him of one doubt, for he till then believed that the other was both his Enemy and his Rival, but now he looks on him only as his Enemy: She tells the other much ſuch another Story, but that I may not ſeem to Romance; by telling you all their private Diſcourſes, which would be impoſſible; ſhe manages her Affairs ſo, ſhe gets Money out of one to buy her a New Gown and other Ornaments, and pretending an old debt which ſhe owed to a Mercer, who would ſue her Husband; ſhe, that ſhe might keep it from the knowledge of her Husband, which would ſpoil all her deſign upon him, perſwades the other to lend her Money to pay this debt; and thus they ha-

ving done all that ſhe can deſire of them, and finding their Moneys to be well ſhrunk, and being deſirous to be rid of them, ſhe at their earneſt importunity, appoints one to go out of Town two or three Miles, where they were to continue and have their Frollick for a day or two, and when ſhe comes to a Tavern, the place where they were to take Coach, the other meets as if by chance, though it was by her own appointment, and ſo affrightens her and him that was firſt come, ſhe as pretending to be ſurprized, rails at them both, and they at one another, fall to fighting in the Tavern; in which engagement ſhe leaves them, taking Coach, and returning to her Lodging, telling her Landlord and Landlady, that her Husband had endeavoured to Trapan her, and had made uſe of theſe two perſons, naming them, who had ſome deſign upon her, what ſhe knew not, but that

ſhe

ſhe was ſo ſenſible that their Company would be ſuch a ſtain to her Honour, that ſhe would never ſee them more, and therefore deſires them both not to admit either of them into their Houſe. By this Stratagem is ſhe rid of her two Importunate Lovers, and paſſes in the opinion of her Landlord and Landlady for a Woman of great Vertue; and not to bely her, ſhe was not much guilty of that Crime of Incontinency. Her Husband *Carleton* told me, that he did not at all believe her to be a Common Proſtitute, not to be enjoyed by every one that Courted her, that ſhe had no great Inclination that way, and if ſhe did, it was not with any that brought their half Crown, Crown, or half a Piece; it muſt be greater Kindneſſes then theſe, and ſome conſiderable acquaintance, and knowledge of the Party. I know ſeveral idle Fellows that would pretend they had been very Inward with

with the *German Princeſs*, and could command her Company at all times, and it may be ſo, at ſome conſiderable Treat at their Charge, for ſhe much delighted in High Treatments, and would drink as high as moſt men, and ſtill made her greateſt advantages when ſhe had out-drunk them; but when they came to the other thing, let them be never ſo confident or debauched, ſhe knew how to fruſtrate their expectations; ſo that this Crime ſhe was not ſo guilty of, as the world ſuppoſes, no it was her other Tricks of Cheating and its Attendants, Lying and Wheedling; at theſe ſhe was her Arts Miſtreſs, and theſe were ſo innate and natural with her, that they were part of her ſelf; you might as well expect to have a Fiſh live out of the Water, as to expect her to be without acting ſome of theſe Falſities, and in all theſe things ſhe was as falſe as Hell. I have heard

of

of ſome perſons of quality, who were of that baſe temper of Stealing, that if they had occaſion for any Laces, Hoods, Skarfs, or any ſuch things to be bought at the Exchange, they could never be pleaſed with any thing that could be bought unleſs they ſtole it, and they have been ſo often guilty, that at laſt the Shop-keepers who knew them, would let them ſteal, and take no notice of it, for ſoon after ſome friend who watch'd them would come and pay for it. Our Princeſs was much of this Thieving Quality, her Fingers were Bird-lime; but withall, ſhe was too cunning to be caught, or elſe it was very rare, ſhe had the right art of Legerdemain, as you ſhall preſently hear; but before I come to that, I will have one Relation more, to ſhew that ſhe was not eaſie to be courted to Incontinence, and that they who did win her to it, paid full dear for their Lechery.

You

You have already heard how ſhe was rid of her two young Lovers, it was not long after, before ſhe had an old one, a Gentleman of about fifty, he lodged in the ſame houſe with her, and was ſo deeply in Love with her, that he would willingly have been at the Charge of a conſtant maintenance, if ſhe would have lived with him; only, he not only diſtruſted, but knew her tricks, and told her of them; and that he did believe the Story of forreign birth was Romantick, but however, if ſhe would anſwer his love, and live ſoberly with him, he would maintain her in as ſplendid a Garb as ſhe would deſire; for he had four hundred pound *per an.* and no charge but himſelf and a man-ſervant. This was his diſcourſe to her, to which ſhe gave him various anſwers; but at laſt preſenting her with ſome Rings and ſuch toyes, he won her to conſent. Now in regard this their purpoſe could not be handſomely executed

executed in the houſe where they were, and they deſigning to live in all freedome as man and wife, they therefore left that Lodging and went to another at a convenient diſtance; he had promiſed her a Jewel worth fifty pound, which he would give her the firſt night ſhe would lye with him; as an engagement of his truth to her, and he performed his word accordingly; ſome time they lived thus together, and complyed with one another very reciprocally; yet he like an old Fox knowing that he had a Serpent in his boſome, would not truſt her with any money nor himſelf neither; for all the time they lived together he did not keep above ten pound in the houſe at a time; but ſtill as he received his quarterly or half-yearly payments of Rent, he carried the money to a Goldſmiths, and fetched it as he had occaſion; and the Goldſmiths Bill he was very curious of, not leaving it in any Box,

Cheſt

Cheſt, or Trunck, that might be broken open; but ſtill carrying it about him in his pocket; ſhe minded all this well enough, and was for ſome time contented to live in that private retired manner, but like fire that is kept cloſe, will blaze when it can get out, ſo ſhe could not endure to live long without being in action; ſhe had a mind to blaze abroad in the world a little; her inclination, or rather Fate forced her, and act ſhe muſt; wherefore ſhe waited her opportunity when ſhe might get ſome prize and ſo march off with flying colours. She waited the coming of the next Quarter-day when his Rents were to come up, which were brought accordingly, but ſecured as I have already told you, ſhe knew not how to engage him to bring it home, leſt he ſhould diſtruſt her, and if it lay long there, he would fetch it away in parcels; wherefore ſhe knew not what courſe to take, but fortune put an oppor-

opportunity into her hands by his coming home one night ſo drunk, that ſhe was forced to put him to bed; where, when he was lay'd and ſhe found by his ſnorting that he was faſt enough, ſhe examined his pockets, and looking into his Letter Caſe, among his papers, ſhe there found a Bill upon a Goldſmith in *Lombard-ſtreet* for a hundred pound; this ſhe ſecures, and puts all up again; and although her Bedfellow ſleeps hard, yet ſhe takes little reſt, for thinking how ſhe ſhould finiſh her deſign, for ſhe doubted that the next day upon examining his papers, which he often turned over, he would miſs the Bill, and preſently go to the Goldſmiths and prevent her receiving of it; wherefore ſhe concluded it abſolutely neceſſary, to hinder from that by getting him out of the Town; but how to do that ſhe did not preſently know, but at length conſidering that he had a very loving friend that lived about

about eight mile off, ſhe reſolved to ſend her Bedfellow of ſome errand thither; wherefore early in the morning before he was willing to awake, ſhe called on him telling him, the day before in his abſence, Mr. ſuch a one his friend had been there, and muſt needs ſpeak with him that day; now ſaid ſhe, I thought fit to call you thus early, that you may have time enough to go and return again before night; for you know that I cannot be content without your Company. He hearing her diſcourſe, and not having any occaſion to hinder him, ſoon riſes, and taking leave of her, begins his journey. No ſooner was he gone but ſhe makes ready for hers; and being dreſſed ſhe takes Coach for the Goldſmiths; when ſhe was almoſt come thither, ſhe drew out the Bill to look on it, and it was well ſhe did ſo, or elſe all her project would have been ſpoyled, for ſhe intended to demand a juſt hundred pound; when look-

looking on the backſide of the Bill, ſhe found that twenty pound of the hundred had been received; this ſtartled and troubled her to think that ſhe was twenty pound worſe than ſhe thought for, but ſhe was glad ſhe ſaw it before ſhe came to the Goldſmiths, who might elſe have diſtruſted her had ſhe asked for the full hundred pound. She being now come to the Goldſmiths ſhop, told him that ſhe came from ſuch a Gentleman, who had ſuch a day left a hundred pound, but had received twenty pound; and he being ſick, had ſent her for the eighty remaining. There was no diſtruſt nor no cauſe for it, wherefore the money was paid and the Bill delivered up. She being now Miſtreſs of this rich Cargo of eighty pound in money, the Jewel of fifty pound which he had given her, and ſeveral other Rings, Pendants, and Necklaces to a good value, was reſolved to march off, leave her old friend, and ſeek a new,

or

or at leaſtwiſe new Quarters; but ſhe was much diſturbed and vexed that ſhe was diſappointed twenty pound in her expectations, and thought how ſhe might make that good; and being now reſolved to leave her old Lover, and therefore to make the moſt of him, and knowing that ſhe had time enough by reaſon of his being out of town, ſhe therefore returns to her Lodging, and not having the keys, breaks open the locks of a Trunck and Box and rifles them both, where ſhe finds twenty pieces of old Gold, a golden Seal, an old Watch, and ſome odd pieces of Plate; theſe and all things elſe of any worth ſhe takes, and then without taking any leave of her Landlady, ſhe again takes Coach and marches off to a new Lodging at another end of the Town, where for ſome dayes ſhe keeps cloſe.

And now I have related this Story of her, is ſhe not a baſe ungratefull woman thus to leave a man

man who ſo handſomely provided for her? Had it not been better for her to have continued with him, who loved, tendered, and would alwayes have taken care of her, and kept her from running into thoſe lewd Courſes that ſhe ſince then committed. Was it not enough for her to take the Gentlemans Bill and all his money, but alſo afterwards to go back and take his Gold, which he valued it may be more than the worth, but above all things his Seal of Armes, which it may be had deſcended to him from his Anceſtors, and which he would not have parted from for forty times the price? This ſhe muſt needs think muſt much diſcontent him, conſidering the trouble and neceſſity ſhe would put him to till the next Quarter day, until when he muſt ſtay without money or be forced to borrow. All theſe things ſhe knew, but no conſideration weighed with her as any thing, all was laid aſide to perform her will

will, and to be as ſhe reekoned revenged for the twenty pound ſhe was diſappointed of. Well, let her go for a baſe lewd woman, but time will come that ſhe muſt repent this unhandſome ingrateful action. And thus you ſee how dearly this man paid for her wanton Company, if he had any muſick he paid the Fidler ſoundly or ſhe paid her ſelf; his ſweet meat coſt him ſowr ſawce, and ſo will hers in the end. But ſhe had much more work cut out for her to do, this was but one of her firſt Projects and was not likely to make much noiſe, for the Gentleman for ſhame would not ſpeak much of it in publick, only to ſome private friends, and from one of them I had it; If he had made it publick it would have availed him little, he ſhould only have been laugh'd at, and therefore ſilence was beſt in the caſe.

Our Counterfeit Lady having thus over-reached her old Lover, and having taken a convenient

Lodg-

Lodging, it was not long e're ſhe had a young one, who you ſhall ſee ſhe uſed no better than the former; but firſt when ſhe took her Lodging pretending ſhe was a Virgin and newly come out of the Countrey upon ſome extraordinary occaſion, ſhe wanted a Maid to wait on her, ſhe therefore deſires her Landlady to help her to one; ſhe ſoon furniſhed her, but not to her content; and ſeveral ſhe had before ſhe was pleaſed, they had one fault or other, and ſhe found they would not be for her purpoſe; but in concluſion one ſhe had, that very well pleaſed her; and indeed was as cunning and ſubtil a Baggage as her ſelf; and was afterwards very aſſiſtant to her in her affairs. She being provided and fitted with tools, a convenient Lodging, and fit Servant, it was not long e're ſhe fell to work; ſhe was very careful to keep her ſelf out of idleneſs, and to contrive how to get more money before what ſhe had

was

was gone. She had already given out that she was a Countrey Gentlewoman, had a thousand pound to her portion left by an Uncle, that she could command when she married; that her Father was able to give her more, and would do so too if she would consent to marry with one in the Countrey whom he well liked and had provided for her; but she wholly disliking him, had chosen rather to leave her Father and come to *London*, than abide at home and be so importun'd by her Father and hated Lover; and that for her maintenance she had the Interest money of the thousand pound quarterly paid her. This was the Story she framed, and to make it the more feasible, she contrived Letters to be often brought her as if sent out of the Countrey from a Kinswoman, who gave her constant intelligence how affairs went about her Father and Lover; and these Letters being loosely laid about her

her Chamber, were ſeen and peruſed by her Landlady. She was ſo reſerved and retired that ſhe went ſeldome abroad, and then masked, vayl'd, and Coach'd, and kept very good hours and a handſome decorum in all things. The Landlady where ſhe lodged had a Kinſman of a very good fortune who came often to viſit her, and ſo by that means had a ſight of our Counterfeit, who was very wary and ſhye of being ſeen of any; and that occaſioned this young man to be the more inquiſitively curious. He knew no more than what his Kinswoman the Landlady told him, and all things correſponding to her diſcourſe it was taken for authentick; and he believing her to be a Fortune ſuitable to his quality, ſought all means to Court her; ſhe as ſhye as ſhe was, was however ſo civil out of complacency to her Landlady, to ſuffer her ſelf to be treated by this young Gallant; and in fine drew him on to

be her affectionate Lover; ſhe knew her diſtance, and kept that, engageing him to the ſame; and he reſpectfully obeyed her, he preſented her with a Watch, which ſhe after ſome ſeeming refuſal accepted; and now being free in their Converſe ſhe told him all the ſad ſtory of her Fathers harſhneſs in ſeeking to force her to ſuch a Match as ſhe hated, her Suitor pittied her in that, and made a free tender of his Love and Service, telling her that he had five hundred pound by him in money, and two hundred pound *per an.* and that he would gladly enjoy her to wife with her bare thouſand pound, and leave her Fathers good will to time; ſhe thanked him, but withal ſeemed very unwilling to marry without her Fathers conſent; for by that means, ſhe ſhould loſe a thouſand pound more, which, he could, and intended to give her; our Youth heard and believed all ſtill, offering his love at the terms aforeſaid.

ſaid. As they were one day diſcourſing of theſe and ſuch like affairs, a Porter knocks and brings a Letter, the Maid receives it, and brings it to her Miſtreſs, who preſently opens and reads it, but ſhe had no ſooner finiſhed her reading, but ſhe pretending to be amazed and affrighted, cryed out, I am undone, and was ſo ready to fall into a Swound, that her Servant was forced to apply things to recover her. Her Lover was all this while by her and comforted her with the beſt words he could, deſiring if ſhe pleaſed to underſtand the occaſion of her preſent diſtemper. Sir ſaid ſhe, ſince you are already acquainted with moſt of my Concerns, I ſhall not make a ſecret of this, therefore if you pleaſe to read over that Letter you will know the preſent cauſe of my affliction, he having her leave took up the Letter and read thus,

Dear Couſin.

ALthough I have taken Pen in hand with a reſolution to write to you, yet I almoſt reſolve againſt it; knowing that you will receive much trouble at the intelligence I ſhall give you, but there is ſomewhat in it that may turn to your advantage, which I pray make your beſt uſe of, and let that give you ſome Conſolation for the other trouble; and now I have provided you in general for ill news, know that your dear Brother and my loving Couſin is dead, I know he was dear to you, and therefore his loſs will the more ſenſibly afflict you; but withal you know that by his death you are the only Heir after your Father to his eſtate of two hundred pound per an. *This may give you ſome pleaſure, but what I am next to inform you of, is the worſt news of all, and that is this, that your hated Lover hath been ſo importunate with your Father, eſpecially*

ally ſince your Brothers death, that now your Father is reſolved you ſhall be married to him; your Brother who was uſed to be your Friend to diſſwade your Father from violence being dead it is believed your Father will take no refuſal of you, eſpecially ſince he ſayes now you being his Heir, are to receive the greateſt part of your portion from him. And therefore you ſhall obey him in order to theſe reſolves, he and your Lover are preparing for a journey to London, *where they will be in few dayes, and they know where to find you out, I doubt to your trouble, unleſs you can in obedience to your Fathers commands throw off the averſion you have for your Lover; I ſhall not adviſe you but thought good to let you know of this alteration of your Condition, that you may not be wholly unprovided how to diſpoſe of your ſelf, which God grant may be for the beſt; theſe are the prayers of*

Your loving and affectiona e
Kinſwoman R. F.

Our young Lover having read over his Ladyes Letter, found that ſhe had cauſe to be afflicted, and that he was concerned in the matter, he was glad to hear of her additional fortune, but doubtful that her Country Lover would deprive him of her; wherefore after ſome words of Comfort, they fell to conſultation of what was neceſſary; and to be brief in my relation, it was thought wholly neceſſary to change her Lodging, and not knowing where better to be, he made her a tender of his, which he could commodiouſly ſpare having two Rooms on a floor; this was that which ſhe aimed at, and therefore he without much difficulty perſwaded her thereto, and ſo they the next day removed accordingly; he gave her the accommodation of the faireſt Room of the two which was to the ſtreet-ſide; and was better furniſhed than the other which was backwards, and where

where his man had lain who was now mounted up into a Garret; he removed only his Trunck into his back-chamber, leaving all things elſe in the fore-room; here our Counterfeit and her Maid lay, but her buſineſs being to come at this Trunck where ſhe ſuppoſed his money was, ſhe was not well pleaſed that it was removed, and therefore reſolved to be lodged where that was: for this purpoſe, one evening, when they were ready to go to bed, ſhe complained of an ilneſs in her head, and that ſhe was ſo diſturbed by the noiſe of the ſtreet, that ſhe could not ſleep; and therefore deſired to change lodgings with him; he made ſome excuſes that it was not ſo commodious, but ſhe ſtill urging the inconveniency and noiſe, he was content, and only changing the ſheets without removing any thing elſe, for that night they changed lodgings, he telling her, that the next day he would cauſe ſeveral things

that lumbered up the Room to be removed, to make it as commodious as might be, but ſhe purpoſed to ſave him that labour, and therefore a bottle or two of wine being drank in her new lodging, they for that night parted, he to his bed to ſleep, but ſhe was otherwiſe employed. Her Maid knew of her deſign and aſſiſted in it; they reſolved not to go to bed that they might be ready ſo ſoon as the doors were open to be gone, they lay down by turns for ſome hours in their cloaths, but towards morning they fell to work, and ſoon broke the trunck open, there they found a hundred pound in a bag, and ſome ſuits of cloaths, they ſearched for Gold which they knew he had, but that being portable, he carried it in his pocket and ſo they miſs'd of it, and only the ſilver was their prize, which ſo ſoon as it was day and the doors open they ſlipt away with, leaving our poor Lover to look his money & his Miſtreſs, who with

with her woman, (for Maid I cannot truly call her) were gone far enough. Thus did ſhe over-reach both old and young, ſtill coming off with flying colours, and as yet acted pretty honourably, only cheating thoſe that intended ſome project upon her; but e're long ſhe being fluſh'd with ſucceſs attempted to cheat any body friend or foe, rich or poor, all was fiſh that came to net whether *Salmons* or *Sprats*; for ſhe would play at ſmall Game rather than ſtand out, a ſilver Tankard or Beer-bowl was prize with her; nay rather then loſe her labour a pair of ſheets and pillow-beers would ſerve the turn. But before ſhe declined to theſe poor things, ſhe had ſome more conſiderable projects; one whereof was of notable ſubtil contrivance, and thus it was. She had often changed her Lodging, and by her womans means had gained ſome ranting acquaintance which had been of hers, ſo that mony flew away a-

pace; and they knowing that ſhe was ſomewhat bare of money as well as they, but ſtill their wits were as plentifully furniſhed as hers, they ſet them (the only tools they had) to work, to raiſe a new ſtock; and having conſidered of many wayes they reſolved on this. She one day told her Landlady that a Countrey Gentleman of her acquaintance being unacquainted in the City, had happened into a pitiful Alehouſe, where falling ſick he ſoon dyed; and ſome friends of his and ſhe together had thought it very inconvenient to bury him from thence, and not knowing any place ſo fit, they deſired to bring his dead body to her Lodging to bury him from thence; therefore ſhe deſired her leave and aſſiſtance in accommodating her with neceſſaries and ſhe ſhould have a Peece for the trouble of her houſe. The Landlady hearing of profit ſoon conſented, and that Evening the Corps, in a very handſome Coffin,

was

was brought in a Coach and placed in the Chamber, which was the Room one pair of ſtairs next the ſtreet and had a Balcony. The Coffin being covered only with an ordinary black cloath, our Counterfeit ſeems much to diſlike it; the Landlady tells her that for twenty ſhillings ſhe might have the uſe of a Pall of Velvet; and for as much more ſome Scutcheons of the Gentlemans Arms, our Lady was well pleaſed with the Pall, but for Scutcheons ſhe ſaid they would be uſeleſs in regard the deceaſed Gentleman was unknown, but ſhe deſired that the Landlady would ſend for the Pall, and withal accommodate the Room with her beſt furniture, for the next day but one he ſhould be buried; this the landlady performed, getting the Pall of Velvet, and placing on a Side-board table two Silver Candleſticks, one ſilver flaggon, two ſtanding guilt Bowls, and ſeveral other pieces of plate; this was for adornment and to be uſed in ſerving the wine the

next

next day, but the night before the intended Burial, our Counterfeit Lady and her Maid within the houſe, handed out to their Comrades without, all the Plate, the Pall of Velvet, and all the other furniture of the Chamber that was portable and of value, leaving the Coffin and ſuppoſed Corps, and ſhe and her woman deſcended from the Balcony by help of a Ladder which her Comrades had brought her. The next day the Landlady opening the door, found all was conveyed away but the Coffin, when calling ſome friends, they opened that and found in it only Brickbats and hay, ſuch a quantity as might make it weighty enough for a dead body; this was the adventure of the Coffin, which was ſo talked of, and indeed was one of her Maſterpieces and ſhe carried it off very cleverly; the Plate was converted into money, and the Pall of Velvet into a looſe French Coat and Mantle for her ſelf, and velvet

Coats

Coats for her Confederates; who being all Rogues alike were in one Livery; they ſung Oh be joyful, whilſt the Landlady and Armes-Painter ſung *Lachrymæ*, and this adventure made work for the Lawyers, as well as the Taylors, for the Armes-Painter went to law with the Landlady for ſatisfaction for his Pall of Velvet, which lately coſt him forty pound. But let them agree the matter as well as they can, our Counterfeit and her Companions agreed to act more villanies, and ſhe ſeeing that her ſtolen french Coat became her ſo well, purpoſed to have a new Gown of the ſame price, and having projected the way how, ſhe ſoon put it into execution in this manner. She and her Waiting-woman took Coach and went to *Lombard-ſtreet*, where at a Mercers Shop they alighted, deſired to ſee ſeveral ſorts of Silks, which were ſhewed to her Ladyſhip, who at length likes of ſome for her purpoſe, ſhe beat the price

price as low as poſſibly ſhe could, that ſhe might ſeem to be a good Pay-Miſtreſs; and at laſt they agreed for ſix pound, ſhe then puls out a Purſe wherein ſhe had about twenty ſhillings in ſilver and ſeveral pieces of Gold, but ſeemed ſo troubled to part from her Gold that ſhe rather than do ſo, deſires the Mercer to let his ſervant ride along with her in the Coach to her houſe and ſhe will inſtantly pay him in ſilver; telling him that ſhe ſhould ſuddenly, and it may be preſently, lay out more money with him for a Kinſwoman ſhe had at home, who it may be liking of her ſilks, might preſently beſpeak ſome of him of the ſame. The Mercer being willing to accommodate his Cuſtomer and to gain more, ordered his Servant to attend her; whereupon they being all Coach'd, the Coachman was ordered to drive home, but they had not gone far, but our Counterfeit bethinking her of ſome preſent buſineſs, altered her orders,

and

and commanded the Coachman, firſt to drive to the *Old Exchange*, and ſaid ſhe to her Waiting-woman, now I am out, I will go up into the *Exchange* and fit my ſelf with a ſet of Knots ſuitable to this ſilk, that will be very convenient replyed the woman, and therefore being come to the *Exchange* and the Coachman opening the Boot ſhe alighted; ſaying to the Mercers man, Friend, you may ſit here in the Coach while my Maid and I go up & buy a few odd things & will return inſtantly; the poor young man thought it was good manners to obey her Ladyſhip, and therefore ſat ſtill, permitting her woman to take the ſilk to match with Ribbons as they ſaid, and ſo they tript it up ſtairs, leaving the young Novice to take a nap in the Coach; but he might have taken a long one, if he had ſtay'd till their return, for although their buſineſs was ſoon diſpatched yet they came not back, no, they returned another

ther way; all that they did there, or intended, was to walk half way round the *Exchange* to the other door, and ſo deſcending and taking Coach drove home to their Lodging, where they fell into a great fit of laughter, to think what the poor fellow would do, and how he would anſwer his Maſter; how he came off you may imagine, but he waited long in expectation of her Ladyſhips return, and then examined the Coachman of his Lady, who could give as little account of her as himſelf, only the Coachman firſt diſcovered they were both cheated, and the young man not knowing how to excuſe his folly to his Maſter, as his beſt expedient, gave the Coachman twelve pence to go home with him and certifie his Maſter how the caſe was; who underſtanding the Cheat was forced to ſit down with his loſs. Our counterfeit having made ſilk enough at one heat for a Gown and Petticoat cauſed it to be made up, and brag'd

brag'd of her fair undertaking to her Comrades; telling them that it liked her very well, although it was the cheapeſt Gown ſhe ever wore. Well, ſaid one of her Male-companions, I dare undertake within one weeks time to be maſter of a better, and that at a cheaper rate; for your Silk came from the Mercers, and I intend to have ſome at a better hand, an eaſier lay, play the good husband and have it from the Weaver himſelf that makes it. That would not be amiſs ſaid ſhe, and indeed although I want no Gowns yet I long for a piece of Silk ſo purchaſed at the firſt hand, therefore I pray make tryal of your skill, the other replyed he would not fail, and therefore thus he executed his project. He walks into *Spittle-fields*, and enquires for a Broad ſilk-weaver a *French man*, and finding ſuch a one, he knocking at his door, and being brought in to him, tells him that he belonged to ſuch an eminent Lady, naming her, who had

ordered

ordered him to find out a *French man* a Broad weaver, that ſhe might buy of him ſome Silks, for ſaid he, my Lady hath been deceived by her Mercer who ſells her Engliſh ſilks for French, and therefore I had orders to find out a *French man*. Well ſir replyed the Weaver, what would your Lady have? a right *French Farendine* replyed the Cheater. I can furniſh you with the beſt in England ſaid the Weaver, of the very ſame making as ſuch a great Lady had, and thereupon brings out ſeveral ſorts and pieces; they diſcourſed of price, and the Weaver asking eleven ſhillings a yard, the Cheater replyed that his Lady had ordered him to give ten ſhillings *per* yard if it were a right *French Farendine*, and to buy the whole Piece. The honeſt Weaver being willing to take money, tells him that indeed if he did ſell it ſo, it was as cheap as the Mercers gave him, who bought all he made all the year round; that may be ſaid

ſaid the Cheater, but then I ſuppoſe you truſt ſix or twelve months whereas now here is good ready money, 'tis granted replyed the Weaver, that, and that only is the reaſon why I ſhall be willing to take your money. Well then ſaid the Cheater, ſince we are agreed, I will have all the Piece, being forty yards, and you ſhall have your ready money, only I muſt deſire you or your Servant to go home with me to my Lady, who at the firſt ſight will pay the price we have agreed upon. The old Weaver having formerly been chouſed, and had tricks put upon him, was ſhye and unwilling to go from home, but the thoughts of twenty pound together ready money induced him, but that he might be the more ſure, he was reſolved to take his man with him to carry it, and then he did not queſtion but they two ſhould be wiſe enough to prevent any trick that ſhould be put upon him. He therefore delivering the

Silk

ſilk to his ſervant they walked out together to the other end of the Town, when coming to a great Gate, the Ladies pretended Gentleman entred, and deſiring them to walk in the Court-yard, he goes in, ſtayes ſome little time and returns, ſaying, Sir, my Lady is not yet ſtirring, but will be preſently; wherefore if you pleaſe, we will go over the way to the Alehouſe take a mornings draught, and by that time ſhe will be ready, and you ſhall be diſpatched. To this the Weaver conſented and they took a Room next the ſtreet, there they ſat about a quarter of an hour, when over comes a fellow bareheaded, now ſaid the Cheat I believe my Lady is up, and I am ſent for, upon this the fellow without a hat enters, how now ſaid the Cheat what news? Why Mr. *Thomas* ſaid he, my Lady is ready and would have you bring over the ſilk, and ſhe will ſend the money; you ſee ſaid the Cheater to the Weaver that

that I told you true, it would not be long e're ſhe was ready; therefore give me the ſilk and I will go over and fetch the money; *Ralph* ſaid he to the other do you ſtay and keep the Gentleman Company the while. The Weaver as wary as he was, was now blinded, he ſaw every thing carried ſo cleverly that he had not the leaſt diſtruſt; but the bare-headed fellow ſitting down and drinking he delivered the ſilk to the other, who goes directly in at the great Gate, and the Weaver ſeeing that, and having the other fellow with him, thought all was well, but he did not find it ſo; for they ſat drinking ſo long, that the bare-headed fellow began firſt to complain; ſaying, I wonder our *Thomas* ſtayes ſo long, I am ſure my Lady will give him the money at the firſt word if ſhe be at leiſure, I therefore wonder at his ſtay, and ſo do I ſaid the Weaver, after ſome little longer ſtay the Weaver ſeeming troubled, the bare-headed fellow

low ſaid, I will go over if you pleaſe, and ſee what is the matter, do ſo ſaid the Weaver, but do not ſtay, no replyed he, but he intended not to be ſo good as his word, for he was glad he was thus diſcharged, and going in at the great Gate he was no more ſeen. The Weaver ſat in great trouble, doubting ſomewhat was the matter, and vexing that he had delivered his ſilk, at length he calls for the people of the houſe and asks them, if they knew not the men that were with him? they replyed no, what not know my Ladies men *Thomas* and *Ralph* that were there with him? we know none of them replyed they, nor know not what Lady you mean; my Lady replyed the Weaver that lives over the way at the great Gate; Sir you are miſtaken ſaid the people of the houſe, for we aſſure you there is neither Lady nor Lord there at preſent, all are out of the Town but a Houſe-keeper and one boy; then

I am cheated ſaid the Weaver, but I cannot conceive well how that can be, for I ſaw them both go in, and neither of them yet is returned, for I watched them; if that be all your hopes ſaid the Hoſt, you will be deceived, for there is a paſſage through into the back ſtreet, Nay then, ſaid the Weaver, I am certainly cheated and cannot help it; but to ſatisfie himſelf further, he went over with the Hoſt and found the paſſage was as he had related, and no body but an old Woman and a Boy in the Houſe, who could give no account of the people he enquired after. There was no Remedy but Patience, and that the Weaver was forced to, & to return home with a light Purſe and a heavy Heart, and he was not ſo troubled, but our Counterfeit Lady was as well pleaſed with the handſome performance of her Friend, who gave her a particular account of the management of the Affair; he commended his Wit, and ſo did

ſhe

ſhe too: but ſhe told him that ſhe ſhould never be at quiet, untill ſhe had acted ſomewhat that might be equal to it, and conſidering of what ſhe told him, that ſhe would put the Cheat upon the very ſame Man, the honeſt Weaver. Nay, if you can do that ſaid her Confederate, then I ſhall yield you the Priority; but I doubt you will find it a very hard Task to out-wit the Weaver, who is bitten ſo conſiderably already, and who ſtands warily on his Guard. I am reſolved, ſaid ſhe, I will attempt it, and ſo ſhe did in a ſhort time after. She being acquainted with the Place and Perſon, takes Coach and goes thither; but firſt ſhe provided her ſelf of a Convenient Lodging, for that is the principal matter in the Caſe: Being thus fitted, ſhe boldly goes to the Weavers, and deſires to ſee ſome Silks, which he ſhews her, ſhe likes them, and the price they agreed upon, nothing was remaining but to pay for it; but

but examining her Pocket, ſhe had nothing but Gold, and not enough of that neither; wherefore ſhe tells him, that he muſt either go or ſend with her, and take his Money; You muſt pardon me Madam, ſaid he, I ſhall not let my goods go out of the Houſe before I have my Money; ſhe demands his Reaſon, he tells her, he had been ſeveral times Cheated, and among other Cheats, he relates the laſt, which ſhe knew as well as himſelf; ſhe ſeems to wonder at the Contrivance, and exclaims againſt the cunning ſubtil wickedneſs of the world, and tells him he had been well enough had he kept his Wares in his own hands, and preſented them himſelf to the pretended Lady, but to truſt another was the ready way to be cheated; very true, reply'd he, I know it to be true to my Coſt, and therefore ſhall not venture my ſelf nor Goods out of my own Houſe: What not with a Woman, ſaid ſhe?

I have no body with me, and I will pay you before your Goods go out of your Sight; I ſhall be at one word, here's one, here's 'tother, and beſides it will not be very inconvenient for you, for you may ride in my Coach with me: Well Madam, repli'd he, I believe you are an honeſt Lady, and I dare truſt my ſelf in your Company, and thereupon taking up the Silk, he went with her into the Coach; ſhe ſeeing that ſhe had ſecured him thus far, and not queſtioning but ſhe could finiſh her Project on him, was reſolved that ſhe would exceed in her firſt purpoſe, and that he ſhould have a Companion in his ſuffering; wherefore asking him, where ſhe might buy ſome good Gold and Silver Lace, he directs to a place as he ſaies, a Friend of his, thither the Coachman was ordered to drive, who did ſo, & ſhe ſeeing and liking the Commodity, agreed for as much as came to 20 Pounds; ſhe tells that man as ſhe

ſhe had done the Weaver, that he muſt go or ſend with her and receive his Money: The Lace-man ſeeing his Friend the Weaver there, not doubting any thing, did not think it neceſſary to go himſelf, but ſent his Man, ſuppoſing him to be ſufficient, and ſo they entred the Coach, ordering the Coachman to drive to the Ladies Lodgings. Thither they came, and ſhe conducts them up Stairs, calls her waiting Woman to bring a Bottle of Wine, that is brought, and they drank, ſhe fetches a Bag of Money, ſuppoſed to be fifty or ſixty pounds, chinks it on the Table, but being about to open it, calls to her attendant to bring Pen, Ink, and Paper, and ſayes to the Weaver and Lace-man, I muſt deſire you both to write down the Quantity and Priſes of your Goods, that I may have no miſtake, for I buy half of it for a Niece of mine, who is above in her Chamber; they were content with this and began

to write, her Bag of Money and Hand on it was ſtill on the Table, and then ſhe calls to her Attendant, Here ſaid ſhe to her, carry this Silk and Lace to my Niece, and ſee how ſhe likes it, the Attendant takes it away: and one of the two had now made out his Bill, and the other begins to do ſo, ſhe takes it in her hand as to peruſe it, walks three or four ſteps towards a Curtain and turns in there. The other had by and by made his Bill, and they both expected the return of the Lady with the Money, but ſhe intends no ſuch matter, they had ſeen their laſt of her; to conclude, after much ſtay they call and knock, and that ſo loudly, that one from below came up, asks what is the matter, they enquire for the Lady; are anſwered, they know nothing of her, but thought ſhe had been ſtill with them, they draw the Curtain and ſearch the Room, but find no body, but to their great grief, ſee a Door

Door and a back pair of Stairs, which they concluded was the way ſhe and her Woman went. The Weaver enquires for the Ladies Niece, but can find no ſuch Party; he charges the People of the Houſe with the Cheat, they deny all knowledge of it, and tell him that ſhe was a Stranger to them, having lain there but three Nights; he fumes and frets, but to no purpoſe; for upon further enquiry he finds the people innocent, & therefore he and the Lace-man return without Money. The Weaver is very angry, and the Lace-man more then he, charging him with the miſcarriage, this enrages him, but all to no purpoſe, for he is forc'd to ſit down with the loſs, only reſolving for the future, not to truſt out of his Houſe. In the mean time our Counterfeit and her Attendant, got home to her old Quarters (for ſhe continued her old Lodging, only taking this, as finding it convenient for her De-

ſign) and there ſhe layes up her Purchaſe, much rejoycing that ſhe had exceeded her Confederate in her undertaking; and he that Evening coming to her, and ſhe relating her particular Adventure, did conclude himſelf out-done by her, and that ſhe had far out-ſtrip'd him, not only in the Affair of the Weaver, but in that additional Adventure of the Lace, and that now ſhe was capable of any Undertaking. She was as well pleaſed with theſe Praiſes and Commendations, as ſhe had been with her Purchaſe, which was now to be made up into Clothes for her, and having enough and to ſpare, ſhe promiſes her Attendant a Gown out of it; ſhe had Money enough to pay a Taylor, but it went againſt the Grain to think of parting from any Money, where Wit would ſerve the turn; nay, ſhe ſhould not ſo well like of her Clothes, if ſhe did not wholly Cheat for them; and therefore ſhe

was

was reſolved to give no more for the making, then the Materials had coſt her, and that was a little Wit, which ſhe thus ſet to work, ſhe muſt again take a new Lodging, and therefore went upon the Hunt to enquire for one, ſhe ſaw many, but liked of none, till ſhe came to a Taylors Houſe, and underſtanding his quality, though the Lodgings were dear, and not ſo convenient as ſhe deſired, yet ſhe diſpenſed with that, and agreed upon all terms. She gave her ſelf out to be a Country Gentlewoman, newly come to Town, and that her Trunks would in few dayes be brought to her. She one day went abroad, and at her return, tells her Ladlady, that a ſcurvie miſchance had befallen her, for her Trunks with her Clothes, and other things which ſhe had expected, were left behind, and would not come in a fortnight, and that ſhe being to be viſited within three dayes, was much

troubled at the diſappointment, and that ſhe was ſo concerned, that ſhe would inſtantly go and buy Silk for a new Gown, if ſhe could tell that her Landlord would be at leiſure to make them by the time appointed for her Viſitants. The Landlady replied, yes, her Husband ſhould in ſuch a caſe as that, lay by all other Work to accommodate her; our Counterfeit hearing this, takes Coach with her Maid, and pretending to go buy Silk, goes to her old Lodging, and takes as much of her late ill purchaſed Commodity, as would make her ſelf and Attendant, Gowns and Petticoats, and ſo returned. By this time the Taylor himſelf was come home, and his Wife having acquainted him with their Lodger's occaſion, he offers his Service, ſhe produces the Silk, he likes it and commends her Penniworth, and takes Meaſure of her and her Maid, for the Miſtreſs ſayes, the Maid's Sweet-Heart was one of thoſe that

was

was to viſit her, and therefore it was convenient for her to be as handſom as ſhe can; ſhe ſayes ſhe will pay for both, and produces much Gold, and is on all occaſions free in ſhewing her Necklaces, Pendants, Rings and other Jewels. The Tailor believing he hath an excellent Job of Work, falls cloſely to it, and by the aſſiſtance of his Servants, gets both the Gowns and Petticoats finiſhed by the Day, againſt which time ſhe beſpeaks of her Landlady a Fiſh Dinner, as ſhe ſayes, to entertain her Friends, gives her twenty Shillings to buy the Fiſh, and deſires her to dreſs it, and provide all things neceſſary, and ſhe will in the Evening pay it. All is provided according to order, and the Viſitants came, eat up the Victuals, and drank off a large quantity of Wine which the Landlady ſent for; the Landlord is fuddled, and the Landlady goes up with him, to get him to lie down; in the mean time (the Entertainment

being kept in a Room below Stairs) our Counterfeit Lady ſeeing the Coaſt clear, and all things as ſhe would have it, ſhe and her Aſſociates (who all came for the purpoſe) ſlip out, neither did they go empty handed, one carries a Silver Tankard, another a Silver Salt, and the reſt, all that they could lay their hands on, and the Ladies Attendant in the rear, carries her Ladies and her own old Apparel, made up into a Fardle, they clap all, and themſelves into a Coach, and ſo march off: and thus much for the Adventure of the Taylor.

And now Reader, let me tell you and aſſure you, that theſe three laſt Adventures, two whereof were with the *Weaver*, and the third and laſt with the *Taylor*, are certainly true, for they are both my Relations, and lately gave me this account of their misfortunes, which you may underſtand to be very conſiderable; for, would it not

not anger any one to be twice Cheated by Back Doors, as the honeſt Weaver was, and yet all things were managed ſo well, that there was not the leaſt cauſe of ſuſpect, to ſee and hear Money, and be ready to tell it, was ſuch a diſappointment as could not be imagined, and could not be contrived, but by ſuch a Crafty Slut, with the aſſiſtance of that foul Fiend, who I think alwayes attended her. The Taylor too, was much diſappointed of his good Cuſtomer; all he had for Workmanſhip, and other Neceſſaries for two Gowns and Petticoats, was only his ſhare of a Fiſh Dinner; the Fiſh indeed ſhe paid for, but ſhe left him to pay for the Sawce, which I am ſure was ſower in his Stomach a great while after; and then it was, that Laughter and Joy was turned into Sorrow and Mourning, nay, and further, into bitter Curſing; for this honeſt Taylor was one of thoſe, that at her

Trial

her Trial about her two Husbands, was ſo joyful at her deliverance, he then commended her for a brave Woman, and ſaid it was much pity that ſhe ſhould ſuffer for that Fact, but now he was in another Tale; he ſaid it was pity ſhe had not been hanged ſeven years before; ſince that time he knew her, though his eyes were then blinded, one would have thought he could not have been ſo miſtaken in his Lodger, for he had ſeen her at her Trial, and after that in her publick acting at the Theatre, but now he did not remember her, nor could not imagine who ſhe was, till in ſome few moneths after, ſhe having plaid ſome more ſuch projects, became famous for ſtealing Tankards, *&c.* and then he too late remembred that his Lodger was the very ſame *German Princeſs*, but ſhe had ſuch an art in diſguiſing her ſelf, that it was very difficult to know her, ſhe could upon occaſion alter, not only

only the aire of her Countenance, but alſo ſome of her Features would ſeem to be different; to conclude, ſhe had ſuch a Face, ſuch a Carriage, and ſuch a Tongue, as would deceive a very piercing Eye, as Experience hath already demonſtrated: ſhe being thus bravely come off, had no need at preſent to ſeek out for more purchaſe, and commonly ſhe did not ſeek for any, becauſe it fell out ready to her hand, the Bird uſually came into the Net of its own accord; and her manner of living being altogether upon Plots and Devices, and ſhe alwayes like a cunning Gameſter, looking to her Hits, did let few blots eſcape her, but was ſtill contriving how to win the Game. Among the reſt of her Contrivances, I ſhall acquaint you with one of a different nature and quality from what I have already related to you; for although ſhe did often act her tricks over ſeveral times, yet I ſhall relate them but once, leſt

leſt I ſhould ſeem tedious, and what I intend for your divertiſement, ſhould prove your trouble, & that I may come to matter of fact, I ſhall thus proceed. Our Counterfeit had for ſome time lived privately at home in her quarters, if I may term that to be private, when ſhe was viſited frequently by her Comrades, ſuch as were as good as her ſelf of both Sexes, but ſhe went abroad but ſeldom, and then only to divert and air her ſelf; but now being weary of her retirement, ſhe went to the Exchange to buy Gloves, Ribbons, and ſuch like toyes, and which was ſomewhat wonderfull, ſhe paid honeſtly for them; but it was ſtill out of deſign, for ſhe ſeldom acted any thing that was good, but it was for ſome ill intent; ſhe only paid for this ſmall parcel, that ſhe might cheat for a larger, and thus ſhe did it. She acted ſeveral parts, but all in a ſplendid gallant Garb, which now ſhe was weary of, and

therefore

therefore intended to put her ſelf into Mourning, which ſhe was reſolved ſome body ſhould pay for; her Clothes being fitted, ſhe wanted a Set of mourning Knots, Ribbons, Hoods, Scarfs, Apron, Cuffs, and other Mourning Habiliments, ſhe therefore ſent her Woman to the Exchange, to the Shop where ſhe had laid out Money and was known, deſiring them to bring all ſuch ſort of Trinkets to her Lady inſtantly, for her Father was dead, and ſhe muſt put her ſelf into Mourning. The woman of the Shop inſtantly looked out three or four of a ſort of all theſe Commodities, and ſent them by her Servant, to ſee which ſhe would like, and bring the reſt back, but ſhe was miſtaken, none was to return, no, our Counterfeit was reſolved to ſhew her a trick, and it was as good for much as little, and as ſoon done; when the things were brought, ſhe pretended to be ſo indiſpoſed, that ſhe could not at

preſent

preſent look on them, but ſent word, that at noon ſhe would dreſs her ſelf, and then when ſhe was fitted with what ſhe liked, ſhe would ſend back the reſt, and money for what ſhe had. This anſwer was ſufficient at preſent, but not ſatisfactory in the main, for the next day the Exchange Woman ſending her Servant to ſee what her Ladiſhip had liked; anſwer was given, that ſhe went out, and came not home that Night, neither did ſhe the next, nor no more thither; for ſhe having another part to act, left her Quarters, and ſo the Exchange Woman loſt her Goods and Cuſtomer. Our Counterfeit being now habited in Sable *a-la-made*, became the talk of thoſe that ſaw her, for as yet ſhe had not given out at her new Lodging what ſhe was; ſhe knew not whether it would be moſt for her advantage to paſs for a Maid, Wife, or Widow, and ſhe was ready to repreſent any quality ſhe pleaſed. She now

now walked abroad attended by her Woman into *Grayes-Inn Walks*, where ſhe was gazed on by all, every one enquiring who was this unknown Lady, but ſhe intended to continue ſo for ſome time. There was at the ſame time walking, a young Gentleman in Mourning too, he was known and talked of, to be a rich Heir, and a well monyed man by the late death of his Father, he was a Student in the Law, and of able parts. All this ſhe underſtood, and this was the Trout ſhe intended to tickle, this was the Prey ſhe hunted after, his ready Money made her fingers itch to be at it, and therefore ſhe alſo gave her ſelf out to be a Rich Heir, hoping that ſhe ſhould make a younger Brother of this young Lawyer: But ſhe was miſtaken, he was otherwiſe deſigned, he Courted a Lady who lodged not far from her Lodgings, and ſhe found by his often paſſing by her Lodgings what his deſign was;

ſhe

ſhe therefore underſtanding that one of her ſtrings had ſlipt, and that ſhe could not draw him in as a Sutor to her, ſhe therefore conſulted with ſome of her Confederates, and reſolved on another Courſe, which thus ſhe effected. She now gave out that ſhe was an Heir to her late deceaſed Father, but that ſhe had an Husband, who being an Extravagant, ſhe did not live with him, and that her Father had given all his Eſtate to her, ſo as her Husband might not enjoy it; but that her Husband threatned and proſecuted her, and her chief Buſineſs was, to take ſuch order in the ſettlement, as her Husband might not diſturb her, and to this end, ſhe wanted Counſel of Lawyers to adviſe with. This was her pretence, and this was laid to get in with the young Lawyer, to whom ſhe went and related this Story, he gave her the hearing, and asked her ſeveral Queſtions, which ſhe well enough anſwered, but he told her,

her, that he could not ſatisfie her in all particulars, unleſs he ſaw the Writings; ſhe was at a loſs in this, but ſaid ſhe would get them and come again, ſo giving him 10 *s.* for his Fee, ſhe left him. She made ſeveral Errants to him, and ſtill giving him money, ſhe became familiar, and he entertained her in his Bed-chamber, where his beloved Cheſt of Money was, but ſhe had no opportunity to come at it; ſhe told him, ſhe ſhould ere long have her Writings, which ſhe durſt not keep in her Lodging, leſt her Husband coming ſhould ſeiſe on them, and thus ſhe ſpent ſome time, till at laſt, ſhe ſaw there was no good to be done at his Chamber, and therefore ſhe intended to make her own Lodging the Scene of her Undertaking. All parties and things being therefore ready, ſhe one day ſeeing him go by, watched his return, and then deſired to ſpeak with him, he diſtruſting nothing, walked up Stairs, and

and was conducted into her Bed-Chamber, a Bottle of Wine was brought, and ſhe drank to him, cauſing him to ſit down, and ſome Diſcourſe they entred upon, about her pretended Law Affair; ſhe enlarged upon the Subject, and ſpun away the time, till on a ſudden her Woman, who was below, came running up, crying, O Lord, Madam, we are undone, for my Maſter is coming; what ſhall I do, ſaid our Counterfet? why ſaid the Lawyer? I mean for you, ſaid ſhe, what Excuſe ſhall I make for your being here? I dare not tell him your Quality and Buſineſs, for that would endanger all, and on the other ſide, he is jealous of his Honour too, therefore good Sir, ſaid ſhe, ſtep into that Cloſet, till I can ſend him away. The Lawyer being ſurprized, and not knowing what on ſuch a ſudden to do, did as ſhe deſired, and ſhe locking the Cloſet and drawing the Curtains of the Bed, went to the Chamber Door,

Door, to receive her Counterfeit Husband, who was no ſooner entred the Chamber, but having heard the noiſe of drawing the Curtains, cries out, How now, what means this, have you been lazing on your Bed and be hanged, let me ſee if you have not a Companion, when looking there, he ſees the Bed all tumbled, and places as if two had been lying there, wherefore he cries out, Oh, you have a Companion, where is he, let me ſee the Rogue, that I may ſacrifice him to my juſt anger; Ah you whore, have I now caught you, is this your retired modeſty. Truly Husband, replied ſhe, you are miſtaken, there is no ſuch party here; there is you baſe Woman, ſaid he, and I will find him to the ſhame and confuſion of you both, and thereupon he ſearching behind the Hangings, found the Cloſet Door; which in fine, he forced her to open it, and there diſcovers the young Lawyer, all pale and trembling, at the firſt

ſight

ſight of him, out flew his Sword, but the Wife flew between them, and a Companion of his ſeiſed his Sword, endeavouring to pacifie him, but the more he endeavoured it, the more enraged he appeared, ſo that at laſt his Wife confeſſed, that indeed ſhe had abuſed him, but deſired pardon for her ſelf and Friend, who ſeeing himſelf trapan'd, began to ſpeak and tell the truth of the ſtory, and what his buſineſs was there; but he had been as good to have ſaid nothing, all was to no purpoſe, there was ſufficient teſtimony, the Bed, the drawing of the Curtains, his being hid, and above all, her Confeſſion, were ſufficient to contradict all he could ſay; therefore nothing would ſerve but Bloud, or other ſufficient reparation for his Honour, which at laſt his Friend propounded ſhould be in money, and named 500 *l.* This was a tall ſum, and frightned the Lawyer, but he conſidering the many inconveniences

veniences he was fallen into, was in the end brought to pay 100 *l.* down inſtantly, which he ſent his Man for, and then he was diſcharged from his impriſonment. Glad he was that he was gone, and they as glad that they were rid of him; but doubting ſome after-clap, and that the Lawyer after ſecond thoughts might return and trouble them, they therefore thought it neceſſary to change their Quarters, wherefore the pretended husband continuing his huſſing humour, would have his wife away with him, and ſo they inſtantly removed.

And now Reader let me tell thee, that as our Counterfeits Father the Fidler did often in his Lifetime ſtrike up that merry and well known tune, called, *The worſt is paſt*, ſo I on the contrary do aſſure you, that the beſt of your Sport, and of my Writing is paſt; I have little more of her Adventures to relate, nothing but what is ordinary, except her two laſt

Adventures,

Adventures, of the *Apothecary* and *Watch maker*, and ſome few Silver Tankards and Beer Bowl adventures, and then I muſt conclude with her; but although the beſt of our Writing is paſt, the worſt of her Adventures are to come, which I ſhall thus relate to you. She had thus fortunately enough performed all the aforementioned Projects: Succeſs had fluſh'd her, and ſhe finding with how much eaſe ſhe gained money, ſhe was as free in ſpending it; ſhe knew ſhe had the ſame tools her wits to work with, and ſo long as they laſted ſhe aſſured her ſelf of a brave Livelihood, and therefore ſought no other way, took no other courſe to live by; but her money being gone, ſhe attempted to get more, and her ordinary courſe was this, ſhe pretending to be ſome Countrey Gentlewoman, would take a Lodging, carry her ſelf very demurely, keep good hours, and although ſhe went abroad about her urgent affairs in the

the day-time, yet ſhe ſtill returned early at night; would hold any diſcourſe with her Landlady or Landlord, and pry into the affairs of the houſe, and be ſure to mind what Plate was ſtirring, and if there were a ſilver Tankard, that ſhe would aſſure her ſelf of, by pretending ſickneſs in her head and ſtomach, and deſiring a Poſſet, which was commonly brought her in the ſilver Tankard; ſome ſhe would eat, and the reſt muſt ſtand by for her breakfaſt the next morning. And thus would ſhe become Miſtreſs of the Tankard, which with her ſelf would the next morning be inviſible, for ſhe would be ſure to be up early and watch her opportunity to give her Landlady the ſlip, neither did the Tankard alone ſerve the turn, but if there were any Cheſt, Trunk, or Box in the Room, ſhe would break it open and rifle it of all that was conſiderable and worth her carriage. This was her trick for Tan-

kards, this was her uſual common way to ſerve her Landladyes, and this ſhe did ſo often in ſo many places that it is admirable ſhe ſhould eſcape; I can name at leaſt half a ſcore of theſe Tankard-adventures in ſeveral places, and all performed much after one and the ſame manner, in *Covent-Garden*, *Milford-lane*, *Lothbury*, *New-Market*, and ſeveral other places; and for one of theſe adventures was ſhe at laſt taken and Indicted, found guilty, Condemned, Reprieved and baniſhed to *Jamaica*, but before I let her paſs from *England* I will relate another adventure of hers and a petty one, wherein ſhe took much pains for little gains, to ſhew you that ſhe would play at ſmall Game rather than ſtand out, and that ſhe would not be daunted nor put by her undertaking, ſhe could not endure to be baffled. She came one evening into an Alehouſe near *Weſt-Smithfield*, being ſcarfed and ma-ked, and pretending to be very

cold

cold, was admitted to the Kitchin-fire, ſhe calls for a Cup of Ale and her Landlady, one was brought, and the other came, deſiring to know her pleaſure, only ſaid ſhe to have your company, for I cannot drink; I do not ſo much value that as your fire, being newly come to Town, juſt now alighted out of the Coach; from what Countrey I pray ſaid the Landlady? from ſuch a place in *Eſſex*, naming it, ſaid our Counterfeit. Oh dear ſaid the Landlady, I know the Parſon of a Pariſh cloſe by! naming it; and ſo do I ſaid our Princeſs, and he is a brave Preacher, I love to hear him; and much more ſhe and her Landlady enlarged upon this Subject, in all which diſcourſe ſhe was very confident. And now ſhe was not only acquainted with the Landlady, but her daughter coming into the Kitchin, ſhe enters into a Dialogue with her, who being at work upon a Point-Lace, ſhe looks on it and much commends it, telling her

that ſhe would come again ſuddenly and ſhow her work, and thus ſhe invites her ſelf into an acquaintance, and finding there was no good to be done at preſent, ſhe paid for her drink and departed, but came again the next evening, and calls for more drink, and enters into a familiar diſcourſe with the Landlady; ſhe enlarging and ſitting there a great while and being troubleſome, the Landlord takes her into examination what ſhe was, ſhe replies a Maiden Gentlewoman, which had a thouſand pound to her portion in her own hands, and lived upon the intereſt-mony of it: who gave you that portion ſaid the Landlord, my Father ſaid ſhe, who allows me to receive the intereſt-mony of it, and truly what I do not ſpend I beſtow upon the poor, and other Charitable uſes; away away ſaid mine Hoſt, I cannot believe any man to be ſo mad as to leave a thouſand pounds to your diſpoſe, neither do I believe you

to

to be ſuch a perſon as you name your ſelf, if you were, you would not ſit tippling here at this time of the the night. The Hoſt having given her this Tart diſcourſe left her; and ſo did ſhe the houſe in ſhort time after, but was not in the leaſt daunted, but made excuſes for his peeviſhneſs. One would have thought that this would have beat her off for coming hither any more, but it did not; now ſhe was reſolved not to loſe her labour, nor to leave things done by the halfs, and it may be ſhe was reſolved to be revenged of her Hoſt; for the next morning ſhe comes again early before the miſtris or Maſter was up, calls for a pot of Ale and a Toſt, the maid brings it her but pours it out into a pewter pot: Alas ſaid our Counterfeit, what do you do maid, you know I cannot drink in pewter, I hate it above all things, and I know you have Plate enough in the houſe, therefore fetch ſome or elſe I cannot drink one

drop; truly ſaid the maid my Maſter carries all the plate up every night, he is not up yet, but if you pleaſe I will go up and fetch a Beaker, do ſo ſaid ſhe, the wench went up and told her Maſter and Miſtris that the Gentlewoman was there below, and wanted a ſilver Cup to drink in, ſhe ſhall have none ſaid the man, why ſaid his wife, ſhe is a Cheat ſaid the man, no ſaid the woman I cannot believe it, but to be more ſure I will go down and watch her, and thereupon ſhe leaps out of the bed and with her cloaths half on and half off went down, by this time the Lady had diſpatched her drink and was contriving how to ſecure the Cup, but the Landlady came and prevented her, withall ſeeing that her drink was off ſhe went to take the Cup out of her hands, ſhe was unwilling to part from her Cup, therefore ſaid, nay Madam, what do you mean, now you are come down I will have the other pot of

Ale

Ale to drink with you. The Landlady being willing to take mony, was content; her maid was ſtept out of an errant, and a neighbours maid came for ſome drink, ſhe therefore her ſelf went into the cellar to draw for her Gueſt and neighbours maid, leaving them together in the Kitchin; ſhe was but juſt down in the Cellar and was beginning to draw the Ale when ſhe heard one tread, and being jealous of her gueſt, ran up immediately to ſee if all were well, but ſhe found that the bird was flown, ſhe asked the maid where was the Gentlewoman, I know not ſaid the maid, ſhe ſtept to the door as ſhe ſaid, to ſee what weather it was and I ſaw her no more: Good lack my Beaker ſaid the woman, where is it, I ſaw none ſaid the maid, they both looked for that and for our Counterfeit, but they were both inviſible neither to be ſeen nor heard of. And now her husband being come down, underſtood the caſe, and was very

angry but to no purpoſe, it was too late. They were both troubled the more becauſe it was an ancient peece of plate worth about three pound, but more or leſs, old or new, it was gone and no more to to be heard of. And now Reader I have no more projects to relate to you, for it was not long after this that ſhe was taken and ſecured in *Newgate* for one of her Tankard-adventures, ſhe had uſed ſo many of them that ſhe was at laſt caught. She had lived like a Duck hunted by the Spaniell, who had often forced her to dive and hide her ſelf, but at laſt ſhe muſt be taken and the ſport at an end: She was endicted for ſtealing a Silver Tankard, was found guilty, and condemned to be hang'd, but had the mercy of Tranſportation, and was two days before Shrovetide, in the year 1670. ſent on board a Ship at *Graveſend* bound for *Jamaica*, ſo that from her baniſhment to her late death, was under two years.

How

How ſhe behaved her ſelf, and what new projects ſhe had in this two years is the intent of my future diſcourſe, which I ſhall briefly relate to you: There was about twenty other Felons went with her the ſame voyage, who were put on board on Shrovetueſday 1670. two days after her, ſhe being a perſon of quality, had the liberty to go alone and they followed, and all performed their voyage together: How ſhe behaved her ſelf in this voyage I know not, but from her own relation which ſaid, that the other Felons had a deſign of murdering the Commander of the Ship, and ſome of the other officers, of ſeiſing the Ship and ſteering their courſe another way; the deſign was communicated to her, who ſeemed to approve of it, but ſoon after acquainted the Commander therewith, who finding the danger he was in, haſtened to the next Port, and there furniſhing himſelf with Irons, cauſed all his Felons to be

ficiently ſhackled & otherwiſe ſecured, and ſo they ended their Voyage. And for this piece of good ſervice to the Captain, ſhe was in much favour with him and the Governour, where ſhe had her freedom to diſpoſe of her ſelf. She who had been ſo famous in *England*, was well enough known there, and for the preſent was courted and treated by all, but this was not to laſt, there was no work for her to do. There was no thoughts of drawing in another *Lord Carleton* to marriage. No acting on the Theatre. No young Novice to Cully and draw in. No Old Man, to keep and maintain her, till ſhe ſerve him a Jades trick, rob him, and run away from him. No Suiter to perſwade to entertain her in his Lodgings, till ſhe rob'd and fled from him. No pretended Burial, to cheat for Plate, and a Pall of Velvet. No Mercers man, to leave at one Door of the Exchange, whilſt ſhe goes out at the other

other. No Weaver nor Lace-ſeller, to Cheat by whole-ſale. No Taylors Houſe to lodge in, where ſhe may get her Clothes made, and march off without payment, and with a further Prize. No Exchange-ſhop there, to cheat of Ribbons, Hoods, Scarfs, and other Habiliments. No young Lawyer to draw in, trapan, and hector out of 100 *l.* at once, and to conclude, *Jamaica* afforded her no ſeveral Lodgings to cheat of Tankards; nor Ale-houſes, to make Beer-bowls and Beakers in; there being none of this ſort of Trade to be dealt in at this Place, ſhe knew not what to do, ſhe was out of her Element, like a Fiſh out of the Water. In the time of this her Exile, we had a Letter from her, from *Port Royal* in *Jamaica*, to all her fellow ſufferers in *Newgate*; wherein ſhe, or the Author that writ it, gives a Drolling Romantick account of her Voyage thither, arrival there, and ſeveral other fabulous fancies, which

which Letter being firſt printed in the year 1661, and now again printed, and added to a Book of hers, called, *The Memoirs* of *Mary Carleton*, and being known to be only a piece of Romantick Wit, I ſhall not recite it here, leſt all the reſt of my Relation be ſuſpected to be only my own Invention; therefore I ſhall paſs that by, and proceed to matter of Fact. How long ſhe continued there I know not, but ſhe ſaid, all the while ſhe was there, ſhe was ſick, and attended by two Phyſitians; ſhe ſtill kept her ſtate in all places, but the Aire of the Climate not agreeing with the Conſtitution of her Body, and indeed, there being little for her to do, and her fate ſo ordering it, that ſhe was not to die there; ſhe therefore takes ſhipping, in order to her return. I remember that ſome perſons of Quality being at Sea in a terrible tempeſt, it was the opinion and fear of moſt in the Ship, that they ſhould ſuffer Ship-

wrack

wrack and loſe their Lives, and accordingly prepared for Death; when one Gentleman among the reſt cries out, Fear not Friends, I dare warrant, you will eſcape this danger, and that we ſhall come ſafe to Land: What reaſon have you to hope it, ſaid the reſt? I am confidently ſure of it, replied he, for here are two Fellows of the Ships Crew, that will never be drowned, for I am very ſure, they are born to be hanged, they have hanging Countenances, every feature in their faces tells me, that they will be hanged: Now therefore, if we have them in our Companies, who are born to be hanged, what need we fear to be drowned; this was that Gentleman's frollick. Now if thoſe who ſailed with our *German Princeſs*, had but known of her Fate, they needed not have feared drowning; whether they were in any danger on that account, I know not, but ſhe endangered her Neck by her return; whether

whether ſhe firſt Landed in *Holland*, and ſo from thence came hither, I know not, neither is it much material; but hither ſhe did come, and fell to her old Trade, ſo that it was not long before we heard of her; ſhe had her old Tools, her Wits to work with; and beſides that, ſhe had not loſt all her time at *Jamaica*, ſhe had gained ſome acquaintance there, who, at her return, ſend Letters by her to their Friends in *London*. Theſe Letters did her ſome Kindneſſes, for by virtue of them, ſhe had ſome Buſineſs, ſhe was entertained, and treated by the Friends here, for their ſakes, from whence ſhe came; you may be ſure ſhe told her Tale plauſibly enough, and pretended to be of quality, ſo that ſhe was admitted into their Houſes, where ſhe ſerved two or three, ſome of her Tankard-Tricks, ſeeing an opportunity, ſeiſed on a piece of Plate, and marched off. To one ſhe pretended, ſhe had not yet

received

received Money for the Goods she brought over with her, desires his assistance, pretends a present occasion for a small sum, which he lends, and then she gives him the slip. Many of these petty Cheats she puts upon her new Acquaintance; but at length, being resolved upon a better Game, she thus begins. She takes Lodgings some where about *Westminster*, and knowing she can do little without help, she entertains an old woman of her acquaintance to be her Attendant, or Assistant rather, in her new Design. They both enquire if there be any young Rich Novice thereabouts, that she may Cully-draw into some considerable Adventure, and upon enquiry, they find that there is a young man a Shop-keeper, by Trade an *Apothecary*, who was Rich and Covetous; him they think to be a subject fit for them to work upon; our Counterfeit Lady her self keeps close, but the old woman is

is ſent of many an idle Errand to the Apothecaries Shop; ſhe wants *Pomatum*, *Mithridate*, *Diaſcordium*, and ſeveral ſuch well known Medicines: he furniſhes her with them, and ſhe gets acquaintance with him, and watching her opportunity, ſhe diſcourſes with him of ſeveral matters; among the reſt, ſhe asks him why he does not Marry, he replies, the times are hard, Trading dead, and Houſekeeping chargeable: That is true, ſaid ſhe; but all this may be ſupplied by a good rich Wife: Yes, ſaid he, a good one and a rich one too, were a brave thing worth the having, and I ſhould gladly embrace ſuch a Fortune; ſuch Fortunes there are, and ſuch a one I can help you to. The young man hearing the old woman's Tale, was well pleaſed with the Diſcourſe, which they continued, and he urging her to know who, and where ſhe meant; he by degrees draws this intelligence from her, That

That there is a young Gentlewoman of her acquaintance, that is Niece to a rich eminent Citizen of *London*; that ſhe hath 2000 *l.* to her Portion, in her Uncle's hands, which muſt be paid at the day of marriage; that her Uncle kept a very ſtrict hand over her, not permitting her to go much abroad; but however, that ſhe ſometimes gave her a Viſit, ſhe having formerly been Nurſe in her Father's houſe, and that ſhe complained of her Uncle's ſeverity, and was minded to alter her Condition, and indeed willing to marry with a Husband that would take her from her Uncle's ſevere uſage. The *Apothecary* was marvellouſly well pleaſed with this old womans Story, believes it all, and being told the Name of the Citizen and his Niece, he inſtantly goes into the City and makes enquiry of both; he finds that there is ſuch a Citizen, that hath ſuch a Niece, that hath ſuch a Portion, and the Citizen

tizen is deſcribed to be ſuch a perſon as the old woman had related, and indeed, every particular was according to her Relation; ſo that he queſtioned not, but that there was ſuch a Gentlewoman that had ſuch a Fortune; and he hoped he ſhould have the good fortune to have her. This made him very eager and earneſt to ſee the old woman, that he might know when he might ſee his intended Miſtreſs. The old one was not long abſent from his Shop, but came, and was ſoon taken on one ſide by the *Apothecary*, that he might ask ſome more queſtions, which ſhe anſwered cunningly enough, and thereupon he promiſes to give the old woman great matters, if ſhe will bring this Match to paſs. If ſhe will help him to get the Gentlewoman, ſhe ſhould have ſome of the old Angels: Well ſaid ſhe, I will have no hand in the Match, unleſs you can love one another; when you have ſeen her, if you

can

can like her, and when ſhe hath ſeen you, if I can find by her that ſhe can love you, then I will tell you more of my mind, then I will make my Propoſitions; very honeſtly ſaid, replied the *Apothecary*; but when ſhall I ſee her, I expect her daily, ſaid the old woman, and ſo ſoon as ſhe comes, I will bring you into her Company. Thus ſhe ſaid, and ſo ſhe did, for our Counterfeit, who was to perſonate the Citizen's Niece, was not far off, and therefore the ſooner to be procured, and was brought into the *Apothecary's* Company; their firſt interview was but ſhort, the Lady pretending haſte to return to her Uncle's. The *Apothecary* Courts her, and deſires her further acquaintance, ſhe promiſes nothing, but paſſes ſome few indifferent Complements, and ſo they part. And now the old woman hath ſomewhat to ſay, ſhe goes to know the *Apothecary's* mind, who was all on fire to proceed, and promiſeth

promiſeth her any thing, ſhe ſhall have her own terms, if ſhe can but bring this matter to paſs. The old woman remains indifferent, and ſays ſhe deſires nothing, if ſhe does not effect his Deſires; but if ſhe doth, then ſhe hopes he will remember her: Nay ſaid he, that you may be upon ſure terms, I will inſtantly ſeal a Bond of 100 *l.* to pay you 50 *l.* at the Day of Marriage. The old woman is content, and accepts his offer, promiſing her utmoſt aſſiſtance, and withall telling him, that ſhe hopes to manage it ſo, as it ſhall be done without much difficulty; for ſhe tells him, that ſhe finds the Lady had a good opinion of him, and then let her alone to encreaſe it. Thus did theſe two make their Bargain; neither was it long before the *Apothecary* and the Counterfeit had agreed upon theirs, for after ſome ſeveral Treats and meetings, he ſtill preſſing her to be married, and telling her that he loves her, can,

and

and will handſomely maintain her, and that he is not quite deſtitute of an Eſtate, having ſome hundreds of pounds by him ready money, and a good profitable Trade, & very well furniſhed; and withal that he was a good husband; I but ſaid our Lady I queſtion not all this, but I doubt I ſhall ſtill be in the ſame condition and be kept bare of money. My Uncle hath money enough of mine in his hands, but he will ſpare me none, or very little, he will not let me have ſufficient to buy me Cloaths and other things befitting my quality, and that makes me ſo unprovided at preſent, and he for to juſtifie his niggardlineſs urges the ſame argument as you did, good husbandry; and you having commended your own good husbandry, I doubt I ſhall find you guilty of the ſame ſparingneſs towards me, and that you will not afford me wherewithal to maintain me as I ought. The Apothecary hearing this diſcourſe,

courſe, and knowing to what it tended, and being reſolved to pleaſe her in all things, that he might teſtifie what he had ſaid was true, that he was of a noble temper, he preſently fetches 200 pieces of Gold, and throwing them into her lap, ſays, there Madam, you may ſee that I do not belye my ſelf in reporting of my Eſtate; I give you this, and can ſhew you much more; and that you may have a taſte of my liberality and love towards you, I preſent you with this as a token of my love, and leave it to be wholly diſpoſed of as you ſhall think fit. Our Counterfeit being well pleaſed, was reſolved to pleaſe him, and therefore replyed, well Sir, I am very well ſatisfied of you, and am content to be ruled and ordered by you in all things. He being overjoyed, preſſed her to ſpeedy marriage, which was conſented to and performed accordingly, and he bedded with her, and ſo ſhe left him for

the

the preſent, ordering him in few dayes to come to her Uncles and demand her and her portion. This was good advice, and the Apothecary purpoſed to follow it; but now our Counterfeit and her old woman, having performed their Project, they change their Lodging to another end of the Town, leaving the Apothecary to get his rich wife where he can find her, they laugh at that which will ere long make him cry. For at the time appointed he walks into *London*, and goes to the Citizens houſe, the pretended Uncle of his wife, he believing he ſhould have ſome falling out, reſolves to bear the firſt brunt with much bravery; and therefore coming to the Speech of the old man, he peremptorily tells him that he comes to demand his wife; I know not what or who you mean replyed the Citizen, I mean ſaid the Apothecary your Neece, Mrs. —— who is my lawful wife, for I have been married to her and bedded

bedded with her ſome dayes ſince. I cannot believe it ſaid the Citizen, I doubt you are miſtaken, for my Neece hath not been abroad in that time, and therefore this is ſome idle Story, it is very true replyed the Apothecary, and I do demand her of you, and with her, two thouſand pound which you have of hers in your hands as a Portion; I do not deny that, replyed the Citizen, but I doubt I ſhall keep it out of your hands, but I hope ſaid the Apothecary you will not deny me my wife, and then as for the money I ſhall find a way to take courſe for it. I will give you the ſatisfaction of ſhewing you my Neece ſaid the Citizen, but I hope ſhe is no wife of yours, and thereupon the old man went in and called his Neece, telling her that ſhe muſt come to her husband, the young Gentlewoman was at a loſs, and wondered at her Uncles diſcourſe, who tells her again ſeriouſly, ſhe muſt go to her husband, ſhe

replyes

replyes ſhe knows not what he means; and the old man telling her the abſolute demand of the Apothecary, charges her with it; ſhe denyes it, as well ſhe may, and is unwilling to goe and ſee this bold pretended Husband of hers; but at length her Uncle leads her out to him ſaying, well Sir, here is my Neece, what have you to ſay to her? Our Apothecary ſeeing the Maiden and doubting that they did put tricks upon him, tells them that they are deceived in him, to think to ſerve him ſo, he knows his wife well enough, that this is not ſhe, but that ſhe is in the houſe, and he will have her. The old man now believing that the Apothecary is either a mad man, or a deceived man, tells him, that he believes ſome body elſe had cheated him and put this trick upon him and not he, for he had no other Kinswoman but that here preſent. The Apothecary doubting ſomewhat of the matter, told the

whole tale to the Citizen, who now fully concluded he had been cheated, he only pittied him and adviſed him to go home and make ſome further enquiry, he did ſo, but to little purpoſe; the old and young were both gone and left him to a fruitleſs repentance. This is the Story of the Apothecary ſo well known and talked of; But although the Story is related generally in this manner and is written thus by others, yet I have been told, and by thoſe too, that pretend acqnaintance with the Apothecary that it was not juſt in this very manner, but that our Counterfeit Lady acted the ſame part as the old woman did in this Relation, and that ſhe procured another Baggage of her acquaintance to repreſent the Citizens Neece, that this was acted at our Counterfeits Lodgings; and that ſhe had the Bond of one hundred pound to pay fifty, though I ſuppoſe the Bond was never paid to either. And

that

that our Counterfeit being fearful of making any more marriages with her ſelf, procured one of her acquaintance to act that part, who deceived the Apothecary, for inſtead of a young vertuous Virgin to his Bride, he had a rotten Jade to his bedfellow, that ſince hath coſt him ſome Phyſick in his own Cure of that diſeaſe, which is commonly gotten by ſuch kind of bedfellows. But whether it was thus, or as is afore related matters not much, but in general cheated he was of his money, and his exceptions of a rich wife, and that by the contrivance of our Counterfeit Lady, who now rants it among her companions as long as this money laſteth, not queſtioning but to get more by the ſame means as formerly; and ſhe would often boalt out of old Quarters, ſeek and find a new one, where ſhe would be ſure to march off with a ſilver Tankard or ſome ſuch purchaſe; many of theſe ſhe thus pur-

chaſed, but ſtill uſing the ſame way. I omit the Relation and come to her laſt trick, and ſo ſhall conclude; the Scene ſtill lyes Weſtward, and near *Charing-Croſs* was the particular place where ſhe takes her Lodgings for her ſelf and a pretended maid-ſervant, ſhe underſtood the quality of her Landlady and the other Lodgers in the houſe; but principally of a Watchmaker, who not only lodged above ſtairs but had a Shop below; ſhe quickly acquaints her ſelf with him and her Landlady, and being earneſt in her buſineſs makes haſte to put it in execution, therefore three or four dayes after her arrival there, ſhe invites the Watchmaker, who was a Batchelour, and her Landlady to go ſee a Play at the Dukes Theatre; ſhe tells them it is recommended to her for an excellent Play, and that ſhe deſired their Companies and would pay for them; they accepted her offer, and taking a Coach, together they

they went. Whilſt the Actors were employed in acting there, her Agents were as buiſy at home at her Lodging; for a Gentleman came to enquire for her, whom her Maid tells that her Miſtreſs is not at home but will return ere long, and that if ſhe pleaſe ſhe may ſtay in her Chamber and reſt her ſelf the whilſt, ſhe took her Councel and was conducted up ſtairs to the Chamber and left there, the Maid comes down, and the Landladies maid asked her how ſhe durſt truſt any body in her Miſtreſſes Chamber alone, ſhe replyes it is her Miſtreſſes ſiſter, but ſhe lyes, for it was as errant a Baggage as her Miſtreſs, they might be ſiſters in iniquity and quality indeed, though they were not by conſanguinity; for this womans name was *Herne* or *Keeling*, by both theſe names and indeed ſeveral others ſhe goes by, but theſe are the moſt uſual; while ſhe is employed above ſtairs, our Counterfeit Ladies maid entertains the

Landladies mayd below ſtayrs with a Bottle of wine, they were merry while the other breaks open a Chamber door and a Trunk, from whence ſhe takes above two hundred pound ready money in gold and ſilver, and about thirty very rich Watches; ſo that the prize was in all valued at about ſix hundred pound, ſhe being poſſeſſed of this, comes down ſtayrs and tells the mayd ſhe can ſtay no longer for her Miſtreſs, but would return another time and ſo ſhe departed. The Play was by this time done, and our Counterfeit deſires her friends to go to the Green Dragon Tavern in *Fleet Street*, where a Bottle of wine being called for, ſhe pretends an excuſe to ſtep aſide, and ſo down ſtairs ſhe goes and haſtens to her Lodging, her ſervant tells her all is done, and then ſhe knowing it was time for her to be gone, away went ſhe and her Maid, and were no more ſeen in thoſe quarters. And the Watchmaker and his

his Landlady diſtruſting ſomewhat by her ſudden departure, after half an hours ſtay, went home after her, but they came too late; all was done and gone, and he found out his loſs to be as conſiderable as I have related it. The news of this loſs was ſoon ſpread abroad, neither was it long before it was well enough known that our *German Princeſs* was the principal Actreſs. She was known, but it was too late, and not to be met withal at preſent. This purchaſe was ſo conſiderable as one would think that ſhe might leave off; whether ſhe did or intended it, I know not, bnt it was not long after, before ſhe was taken. The Pitcher had not gone ſo often to the water but it was to come broken home at laſt. Search had been made for her in ſeveral places, but ſhe was far enough off out of the way: She left the *Weſt*, though it had been lucky, yet it was at laſt fatal to her; and now ſhe ſetled *Southward*: She croſſed

the River of *Thames*, and takes Lodgings in St. *Georges-Fields* in Southwark, where ſhe for ſome time was as ſafe as a thief in a Mill, but her appointed time was drawing nigh, her glaſs had but few more Sands to run. And I do not hear of any more Projects that ſhe acted; this of the Watch-maker was the laſt, eſpecially of any remark. As the world had been ſeveral years troubled with this ſubtile Female Theif; ſo we alſo had men of the ſame good qualities: for one Mr. *Freeman* a Brewer in Southwark, was robbed of goods to the value of 200 pound, and one *Lancaſter*, a notorious Fellon was ſuſpected. Alderman *Freeman* being deſirous to meet with his goods again, or at leaſt with the Theif, employs one *Fiſher* Bailiff of the hundred there to ſeek after him; he being promiſed good payment, makes diligent enquiry in all ſuſpected places; among other places, he comes to the

the houſe where our Counterfeit Lady was; he ſees two or three fellows below ſtairs, who upon inquiry what Lodgers were in the houſe, ſneaked away, the Landlady ſaid there was none, but *Fiſher* ſeeing theſe fellows gone, and hoping to find more above, he without any leave, or more queſtioning, runs up two pair of ſtairs, where he finds our Counterfeit Lady walking in a night-gown, he knew her not, but being curious and ſuſpitious of every thing, and ſeeing ſome Letters lye on the table, he had the Curioſity to caſt his eye upon one, which was directed to one Mr. *Hyde*; he takes it up, and our Lady ſeeing him, endeavours to get it from him; but he thereby growing more ſuſpicious, and knowing there was one of that name Priſoner in the *Marſhalſea*, and hoping to get ſome light into his preſent buſineſs, as believing this *Hyde* might be concerned in the late Robbery; he therefore opens

the

the Letter and reads it, although it contained nothing of that concern, yet he thought good to let Mr. *Lowman* the Keeper of the *Marſhalſea* know of it; and he being not far off upon the ſame enquiry; was preſently ſent for? when he came he knew not his old acquaintance, the *German Princeſs*; for he was Turn-key of *Newgate*, when ſhe was Priſoner about her Marriage with *Carleton*, although he knew her then well enough; yet at the firſt ſight he knew her not, but upon ſome little diſcourſe, he knew her, and told her, ſhe muſt go along with him: This was ill news to her, but he would be obeyed, though he had no Warrant, nor as he ſaid, no thoughts of her at preſent; but he had heard of her late Practices, and believed he ſhould do good ſervice to the Publick, in apprehending and ſecuring of her. Therefore away ſhe is forced to go along with him, and was lodged in the *Marſhalſea*.

The news of her apprehending was ſoon ſpread abroad, and a great reſort was daily made to her, ſome out of Curioſity to ſee her, others who had been cheated by her, to ſee if they could get any ſatisfaction; but ſhe was too cunning to confeſs any thing that might turn to her damnage, and if any ſuch queſtion were asked, ſhe would tell them, that ſhe was not in humour at preſent to talk of any ſuch matters, and would be ſure to deny knowledge of any perſon that ſo charged her. But however, charged ſhe was, and examined before a Juſtice upon the *Watch-maker's* account, on the 17*th.* of *December* laſt; but ſhe continued a Priſoner in the *Marſhalſea* till the 16*th.* of *January*, when by Writ of *Habeas Corpus* ſhe was removed to *Newgate*, to take her Tryal at the *Seſſions Houſe* in the *Old Baily*. During her Impriſonment at the *Marſhalſea* ſhe behaved her ſelf very briskly, and as if ſhe had been

innocent

innocent and unconcerned, no thoughts of Death poſſeſſed her, and ſhe was in great hopes of her Life; for pretending to diſcover ſomewhat conſiderable, ſhe went abroad with her Keeper, to the Judges; but I do not hear of any diſcovery ſhe made, ſhe promiſed much, but performed nothing, only played with her Buſineſs; had ſhe been true to Juſtice in her Diſcovery, it is poſſible that Juſtice might have ſpared her, that never ſpared any body whom ſhe could Cheat; ſo that now, ſhe cheated her ſelf of her Life, as ſhe had cheated others of their Goods; for which Facts, ſhe was on the ſaid *16th* of *January*, brought before the Court at the *Old Baily*. The Judge asked her, if ſhe were the ſame woman that commonly went by the name of *Mary Carleton*, and was not long ſince tranſported; ſhe replied, I am the ſame Perſon. She was then asked the reaſon of her ſo ſudden and ſpeedy return?

ſhe

ſhe replied, ſhe had ſomething to diſcover that troubled her Conſcience; ſhe was deſired to declare what it was. To this ſhe anſwered, It is not convenient to unveil my thoughts about this Concern in ſo publick a place, and therefore I humbly deſire further time till the next morning, which was granted her.

The next day ſhe was again brought to her Triall, where ſhe was arraigned and indicted, for ſtealing a piece of Plate, from one in *Chancery Lane*, of which Fact ſhe was found guilty by the Jury. She had now but one Shift more, and that was an old *Newgate* Trick, to plead her Belly, that ſhe was with Child; whereupon a Jury of Women was found out and ſworn, who after an hours private debate, brought in this Verdict, *That ſhe was not quick with Child*; and thereupon Sentence of Death, according to Law, was paſſed upon her, and was preſently ſent back

to

to *Newgate*, to prepare her ſelf for the other World. And now after this Sentence ſhe was quite altered, ſhe was of another Note, ſhe had not been ſo frollick and merry before, but now ſhe was as melancholy and ſad. She had the day before anſwered all Queſtions in a drolling merry way, and now ſhe can ſay nothing for ſighing: when ſhe was the day before at the *Seſſions Houſe*, ſome Gentlewomen diſcourſed with her, and one told her, that ſhe wondred, that a perſon ſo rarely qualified and gifted, ſhould be guilty of ſuch poor beggarly ſhifting tricks, as ſtealing any thing that came to her hand; ſhe readily replied, Ladies your failings conſiſt in *Falling*, and mine in *Filching*; yet if you will be ſo charitable to forgive me, I will freely forgive you. On Thurſday night after ſhe was in her Lodging in *Newgate*, ſeveral perſons viſited her there; one told her that ſhe muſt think of Death, Yes, ſaid ſhe, that is no

hard

hard matter, I am very well ſatisfied in my Condition; you have good Friends ſaid he, yes, ſaid ſhe, one good Friend here, laying her Hand on her Belly, and meaning a Child there; but ſaid one, you have not ſeen your Husband a great while, how then will the Court believe you to be with Child: Good lack, replied ſhe, is it ſuch a matter to be with Child, becauſe I have not ſeen my Husband? Theſe were her Replies; and in this manner ſhe anſwered all her Viſitants; and when ſome, who were appointed by the Court, came to her from the Bench, to know what great matter ſhe had upon her Conſcience to relate; ſhe could ſay nothing to them, but trifled, telling them the ſtory how ſhe preſerved the Captain at her going to *Jamaica*, as you have already heard: And pretending that ſhe had other Treaſons, but all was but to trifle away the time, in hopes of a Reprieve. There were ſeveral viſitants

with

with her of both Sexs; and among the reſt, I my ſelf went on the Saturday night, but then ſhe was in her malancholly mood. She was ſending to the *Marſhalſeas* for ſome things ſhe had left there; and for want of which, ſhe had not been in a naked Bed thoſe two nights ſince ſhe had been in *Newgate.* She complained of ſome hard uſage, and that People were ſo numerous, and troubleſome in their viſits, that they would not give her time to repent, but would have her to dye with all her ſins: She then ſaid, that it was a great thing to dye, a harder matter then ſhe had thought it. There was two women with her, one of which was a witty baggage; for ſhe made a Speech which tickled the ears of all that were preſent, talking of the frailneſs of humane nature, and that theſe crimes which men would ſlip through and make nothing of, were accounted highly criminal with women; but be-

fore

ſore the Great Tribunal in heaven, men and women ſhould then have equal Juſtice; adding, that it was an unworthy action in men, to come only to behold that poor ſoul there as a wonder, when indeed ſhe was more like a Looking-glaſs: Yes indeed, replyed the Priſoner, I am very like a Looking-glaſs, wherein you may all ſee your own frailties: The other woman added more to her diſcourſe, that ſhe was a ſtranger, and had ſeen the Priſoner but once before, and that it coſt her two Shillings her admittance. So after ſome little ſtay, ſhe took leave of the Priſoner and departed. I obſerved that there was two very near her, who ſpake in *French* to her; who I then believed, and ſince have had farther information, that they were *Roman Catholicks*; they had ſeveral private Dialogues with the Priſoner, and then alſo went away: When another friend in my Company diſcourſed her, telling her of Death

Death here, and Judgment hereafter; and adviſing her not to beleive any *Roman Catholicks*, and that none was able to ſave her, but *Jeſus Chriſt* the righteous, who had ſuffered for ſinners, and that the merits of all others, would little avail her; ſhe ſeemed to be very well ſatisfied in what was ſaid to her: And I being neer her, told her it was a great work he had to do and that yet ſhe had time to repent of all her ill deeds to a merciful God, who refuſed none that came with a true repenting heart, ſhe replyed, the Lord grant me true repentance: and ſome other diſcourſe we had ſuitable to the condition ſhe was in, which ſhe ſeemed to be very well ſatisfied in; and truly I believe ſhe was truly ſorrowful, for ſhe was heard to ſigh very often, and cry out, Oh that I had my dayes to live over again, But I do not deſire it: yet did ſhe ſeem very deſirous to live, and troubled that the women who were

were of her Jury did not favour her as they might, and then ſhe might have had more time. She was like a piece of wax fit to receive any impreſſion; and God knows whether the ſparing of her life might not have been to her prejudice, ſince I believe ſhe thus prepared her ſelf for her change; and it is thought and hoped that ſhe was truly fitted, ſhe continued in this frame of Spirit to the very laſt; ſpending all the day-time in diſcourſing about her preſent condition, and moſt of the night-time in Prayers. She was not lodged as other condemned Priſoners are, in the Dungeon but in a fair Room above ſtairs, although ſtrictly guarded; indeed the profit paid for the charge well enough; for great was the concourſe of her Viſitants, and many gave money for their admittance. Many reports have gone of her that ſhe was very frollickſome during her impriſonment; I was told that while ſhe was at the

Marſhal-

Marſhalſea two or three Gentlemen came out of curioſity to ſee her, and prevailed ſo far with her Keeper as to go forth with her to a Tavern, and that ſhe as ſoon as ſhe entred, told the maſter of the Tavern that ſhe would have him ſend ſo many dozen bottles of wine, and ſuch a quantity of Neats-tongues and other Junkets to her fellow Priſoners, and that he ſhould be paid before ſhe went out of the houſe; that her orders were obeyed and ſhe was treated by the Gentlemen in a very handſome manner, asking her ſeveral queſtions, which ſhe pleaſantly anſwered; that a Reckoning being at laſt called for, it was anſwered thirty pound; how ſo, ſaid the Gentlemen? we have not had above thirty ſhillings here, and that we are willing to pay; but Gentlemen, ſaid ſhe, I hope you will pay for me too; and I did beſpeak as much as you hear of, and ſent it to my fellow-priſoners that they might be the better for me, &

Gentle-

Gentlemen, continued she, you came purposely to see me, and to hear of some of my tricks; and now I have shewed you: therefore without more questioning you must pay the reckoning. This is a story that I have heard of her, as done at the *Marshalseas*; and that she acted it over again at *Newgate*, but I cannot believe it, and am confident no such thing was done at *Newgate*, she was not in so merry a mood; for after her Trial, to her Sentence, she was another Creature: I am sure she was much dejected, and very humble when I was with her. I believe she had no wild wanton thoughts: she was as clouded in her Spirit, as she was in her Face, for her hood was still over it down to her mouth; and she very rarely turned it up: and her speech was very low and faint, broken and interrupted with deep and often sighing; and she was in a manner constantly attended by one of these *Romish Priests* on one side of her, and

and her Siſter on the other. Thus did ſhe continue till the day of her Execution, which was Wedneſday, the twenty ſecond of *January*, and then ſhe ſeemed to be much altered, for ſhe was very chearful and pleaſant in her Countenance and appeared to be ſo in her mind; for ſhe did not ſigh ſo often as before, and her ſpeech was leſs interrupted, ſhe ſeemed to be not only very willing, but alſo very deſirous to dye, ſaying ſhe had no hopes nor thoughts of a Repreive, and that ſhe was truly willing to leave this world wherein ſhe had found nothing but miſery; to go to the other where ſhe hoped to find mercy. At the hearing of the Paſſing-Bell, ſhe ſhewed ſigns of Joy, crying out *Lord Jeſus I come to thee*, help me Lord in my extremity, and do thou overcome nature for me, thou that haſt overcome ſin and Death for me, aſſiſt me againſt nature that does cling to me and is unwilliug to leave me.

I told you in the beginning of this Treatiſe, that ſhe was born on the twenty ſecond of *January*, but it was *ſtilo novo*, ſo that ſhe was born, on the 11th day, but it was on the twenty ſecond day that ſhe was baptized, whereupon ſhe made a conſiderable remark, ſaying, this day was I baptized, and before night I expect to be ſprinkled with the blood of the Lamb, which will be a ſecond baptiſm. Some time before her going to execution, the Prieſt her Ghoſtly friend left her, but ſhe firſt gave him a teſtimony of her Religion, by lifting up her hands and croſſing her ſelf; and did not deny to thoſe that asked her, that ſhe was a *Roman Catholick*. At her Friend's departure, ſhe ſaid to him in *French*, My friend, the good God bleſs you, and ſo they parted. She gave order to her Siſter and a Kinſman, about her Burial, giving them Money, and they lamenting her ſad and deplorable Condition; ſhe deſired them

to

to reſt ſatisfied and content; as ſhe her ſelf did, intreating them not to continue their grieving, which was great trouble to her. And now her time being almoſt come, the Maſter of the Priſon ordered her Irons to be taken off, which had been put on but on Monday night before, for what cauſe I know not, and being ready to go, took out her Husband *Carleton's* Picture, ſaying, this Picture hath been my Companion in all my afflictions and miſeries, and I deſire it may be buried with me, giving it to her Siſter; but ſoon after ſhe took it again, and pinned it on to her left ſide, and wore it ſo to *Tyburn*. She was now led out of her Lodging into the Common Hall, to have the Halter tyed about her, which was done, and there ſhe met with five young men, who for ſeveral Facts were to ſuffer with her; ſhe was the Eldeſt of the Six, for the other Five could not make 120 years. They were all much

much of her temper and humour, and indeed more unconcerned and unſenſible of their Condition, for they went into their ſeveral Carts as if they had only been going to return again; but ſhe employed all the time of her being in the Cart in meditations and reading in two Popiſh Books which ſhe had in her hands; one intituled, the Key of Paradice, and the other the Manual of daily Devotion; which books when ſhe came to the Gallows, ſhe delivered to a friend in the Cart; by the way as ſhe went in St. *Gile*'s-*ſtreet* the Cart ſtop'd, and ſhe had a Pint of *Canary*, one glaſs full of which ſhe drank off, delivering the reſt to one in the Cart; ſoon after her arrival at *Tyburn* ſhe was lifted out of the Cart into an other, where all the reſt of the Priſoners were, and there ſhe was tyed up; and then ſhe took her Husbands Picture and put it into her boſome; then the Subordinary coming into the Cart to them,

asked them all twice if they had any thing to ſay before they departed this world? no anſwer being made he began his Prayers; which being ended, another Perſon alſo deſired to pray with them, this was granted, and when he had finiſhed his Prayer, *Mary Carleton* deſired the liberty to ſpeak to the People, and being permitted ſo to do, ſhe thus began. You will make me a Preſident for ſin, I confeſs I have been a vain woman, I have had in the world the heighth of glory, and miſery in abundance; and let all people have a care of ill company. I have been condemned by the world, and I have much to anſwer for; I pray God forgive me and my husband, I beſeech God lay nothing to his charge for my fault. A Gentleman hearing her ſpeak of her Husband, asked her if ſhe deſired any thing to him, only (ſaid ſhe) my recommendations, and that he will ſerve God and repent, for I fear he wants ſober counſel, and I beſeech

ſeech God lay nothing to his charge upon my account; you are in perfect charity with him ſaid one, yes ſaid ſhe, and with all the world; and thus the Cart being ready to be drawn away ſhe began and continued in pious Ejaculations, ſaying, *Lord Jeſus* receive my Soul. *Lord* have mercy upon me. *Chriſt* have mercy upon me; and thus ſhe continued till the Cart was gone and ſhe ended her life. After ſhe had hanged about an hour, ſhe was cut down, and her friends having paid all due fees for her body and Clothes, they put her into a Coach which carried her to her Coffin not far off, and being put into that, ſhe was the next day buried in St. *Martins* Church-yard. Thus have I brought this unlucky woman from her birth to her burial; as ſhe was born obſcurely and lived viciouſly, ſo ſhe dyed ignominiouſly. Such crimes as ſhe was guilty of deſerve ſuch end and puniſhment as was inflicted on her; and without repentance and amendment infallibly

find them here and worſe hereafter. The only way therefore for Chriſtians to avoid the one and contemn the other, is with ſanctified hearts and unpolluted hands ſtill to pray to God for his grace, continually to affect Prayer and inceſſantly to practiſe piety in our thoughts, and godlineſs in our reſolutions and actions; the which if we be careful and conſcionable to perform, God will then ſhrowd us under the wings of his favour, and ſo preſerve and protect us with his mercy and providence as we ſhall have no cauſe to fear either Hell or Satan. But if we give our ſelves over to ill Company or our own wicked inclinations, we are infallibly led to the Practice of thoſe Crimes, which although they may be pleaſing at the preſent, yet they have a ſting behind, and we ſhall be ſenſible thereof when we ſhall be hurried to an untimely end, as you have ſeen in the vicious life and untimely death of this our Counterfeit Lady.

F I N I S.

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